

THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXXI., No. 850. — SHANGHAI, OCTOBER 17, 1883. PRICE, Tls. 12 ½ AN.

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(2) alt. 2400-83 29 25th Oct., 1882.

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the country, and we shall be glad to hear of
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The other brands, we are happy to say, are
now relegated to the native bazaars, and
judging from their sale, we fancy their sojourn
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that the story of the defendant, Freeman, was
deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to
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6th July, 1883.

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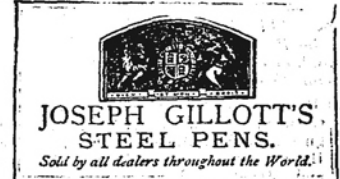
The old, the young, the rich, the poor, whether soldier or civilian, who may suffer from the consequences arising from over-indulgence at the table or otherwise, will find that, if health can possibly be restored, these patent Pills (taken according to the printed direction) will prove their infallibility.

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GOLD MEDAL, PARIS, 1878.



tf 26

THE North-China Herald AND SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

VOL. XXXI., No. 850. SHANGHAI, OCTOBER 17, 1883. PRICE, Tls. 12 7/8 AN.

CONTENTS.

Advertisements—Latest dates—Births, Marriages, and Deaths, &c.	
Arrivals and Departures of Passengers, Shipping, &c.	
LEADING ARTICLE—	
The Possibilities of War	433
SUMMARY OF NEWS	
434	
MISCELLANEOUS ARTICLES—	
The Special Meeting of Ratepayers ..	438
The Chinese Abacus	438
A Long-felt Want	439
Reviews—	
The French-mail Papers	440
The English-mail Papers	441
OUTPORTS, &c.—	
Nanking	442
Newchwang	442
Canton	443
From Shansi to Yunnan	443
The French in Tonquin	444
Poochow	444
PEKING GAZETTES	
445	
MEETINGS—	
Municipal Council	446
North-China Insurance Co.	447
REPORTS—	
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Limited	448
Solar and Lunar Eclipses in October, 1883	449
AMUSEMENTS—	
The Austrian Band	449
Shanghai Yacht Club	449
Crickets—Sh. Race Club v. S.C.C.	450
No. 2 Co., S.V.C., Rifle Competition...	450
CORRESPONDENCE—	
Death to Doctoring	450
The General Hospital	450
The Small-pox Wards at the General Hospital	451
'Arry at the Lyceum	451
LAW REPORTS—	
H.B.M. Supreme Court—	
In Admiralty—	
The British Torcha Chinling	451
MISCELLANEOUS—	
Chinese Notes	454
COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE AND WEEKLY SUMMARY—	
Market Reports	456
Exchange Quotations	460
Share Quotations, &c.	460

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

LATEST MAIL DATES.

England, ...	Sept. 9	Hankow, ...	Oct. 14
San Francisco, ..	4	Yokohama, ...	9
Hongkong, ...	Oct. 13	Nagasaki, ...	9
Tientsin, ...	13	Poochow, ...	14

Latest Mail dates in England, from China.
 Hongkong, ...

Shanghai, ...

BIRTH.

At Shanghai, on the 12th October, the wife of E. E. SASSOON, of a daughter.

DEATH.

On the 6th October, 1883, at Sea, on board the s.s. *Hwei-yuen*, KARL O-CAR WILLFRID, the beloved son of O-car and Bella Wilson, aged 3 years 3 months.

The publication of the *North-China Herald and Supreme Court & Consular Gazette* commenced at 5.00 P.M.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL, NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 17, 1883.

THE views of the *Pall Mall Budget* on France-Chinese matters, as expounded in an article headed "The Impending War in the Far East," are in the main distinctly unfavourable as regards the interests of France. The *motif* of the whole is the enormous character of the enterprise of which the writer believes France to be upon the verge, and the utter inadequacy of the means she has adopted to compass the end in view. To complete the annexation of Annam means to enter upon a war with China, and the first step which any Power would have to take which assumed such a position would be to declare the blockade of the Chinese coasts and possibly to bombard the forts. It will be seen at once that this implies the extension of operations over the whole eastern coast, and the attack not merely of Canton but possibly also of the Yangtze ports, Chefoo, and the forts on the Peiho. This undeniably formidable undertaking would have to be carried on while the positions already gained in Annam were being held, a necessity which in itself would involve the employment of strong garrisons which in their turn would be subject to the constant harrying of Annamites and Black Flags. It is pointed out, and with some force, that when the Allied Powers marched to Peking in 1860 they found 18,000 men none too many for the work of taking the Capital and bringing the Chinese to terms. France has this experience to go upon, and yet the dribbling reinforcements sent out from time to time by the Government in response to the urgent appeals of the invading forces show that she has hitherto scarcely realised the dangers of the situation. It must not be forgotten that the defences of China are very different now from what they were three-and-twenty years ago. The Woosung forts command the entrance to the Huangpu, and are both strong and well-manned. The Taku forts have been rebuilt and new ones added; "forty-three guns of heavy calibre are mounted on them, and it is believed

they could be rendered almost impregnable without much difficulty." Indeed we believe there is ground for saying that any attacking force whose object it was to gain Peking would take a different route, rather than expose ships of war to the fire of Taku. Tientsin itself has been also strengthened by the erection of seven detached fortresses, and although Peking would fall an easy prey as soon as reached the prime difficulty would be in reaching it. We believe that the *Pall Mall* is right in saying that no successful invasion of China could be safely undertaken with any force less than 40,000 men; and hitherto, at any rate, the Republic has not shown signs of putting anything like this number of men into the field. But this difficulty may be overcome. A far more serious matter lies in the question of transport. Putting aside the consideration of how large a fleet would be required to transport 40,000 men across half the world, the task of coaling would be attended with difficulties which at first sight appear well-nigh insuperable. "Unlike England," says the writer, "which has coaling stations all over the world, the French possess few points between Toulon and Saigon where they could put in to replenish their bunkers or refit their ships. In case of war between the friendly Powers the ports of neutrals would necessarily be closed to the ships of both belligerents. To China this would not matter, for she is self-contained, and would merely be fighting a defensive battle. To France it might be serious indeed." But there are other interests to be considered. War would have a crushing effect on British trade as long as it lasted, while it would affect French interests but little, seeing how very small the commerce of France is in comparison with the commerce of England. Here in Shanghai the proportion of French trade to that of other nationalities is only 3.64 per cent., while even in her own colony of Saigon the mercantile interests are chiefly in the hands of English and German firms. The *Pall Mall* is blunt to a degree in writing on this point. "In China itself," says our contemporary, "France does not count." By plunging into a war with China, therefore, France would severely cripple British trade, and would, we hope, feel under a strong moral obligation to make up the loss to us afterwards by throwing open all possible avenues of commerce in her new territories, sup-

posing that she acquires them. In the meantime a panic might be induced in Lancashire from the interference with our import trade here, the price of tea would experience a serious rise, Indian teas would be consumed instead of those from China, the metal trade would be disorganised, and the gravest possible inconveniences would be felt in all departments of commercial enterprise. We are not now supposing that France actually blockades the Treaty-ports. Such an undertaking would involve responsibilities towards England, Germany, and the United States which even France would not care to incur hastily. But many of them would be uninhabitable, and probably all would suffer. Trade would go on, but under difficulties, and subject to continual alarms and interruptions. France has but little trade to lose, but other nations have a great deal at stake; and it would scarcely be an edifying sight to see the interests of all the other Powers imperilled for the sake of an idea, with a little commercial risk to the imperiller. The great safeguard lies in the other risks which France would incur in such an event, and which are even now threatening her. In these our interests are but secondary. Her affairs in Madagascar, her relations with Spain and Germany, her friendship with England, all call for watchfulness. She has surely enough on her hands without incurring the dangers of a war with China. We have often written on the dangers which would result to China from such a war. These are patent and *sautent aux yeux*. But there are also dangers to France; not so great perhaps, according to appearances at the moment, but still great enough to make it right that she should hesitate, and hesitate long and seriously, before she does that which may cripple her resources in the East and give others an opportunity for harassing her far more dangerously at home. Her most important safeguard lies in the fact that China is quite as little inclined to fight her as we believe she really is to fight China. It is a case of "Hold me back!" on both sides.

Summary of News.

The English mail of 7th Sept. arrived here on the 15th inst., by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Rohilla*.

A mail for Europe leaves to-morrow morning by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Amazon*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

(SPECIAL TELEGRAMS TO N.-C. DAILY NEWS.)

London, 10th October.

The French Minister of Marine and Colonies has been appointed to the portfolio of War ad interim.

The following is the result of the Cessarewitch:—

Don Juan	1
Hackness	2
Cosmos	3

M. Compenon has been appointed Minister of War in the French Cabinet.

12th October.

The Spanish Ambassador to France has resigned his post.

15th October.

A new Ministry has been formed at Madrid by Senor Herrero. The dispute between France and Spain has been dropped. The Marquis Tseng, replying to an address at Folkestone, expressed a hope that mutual concessions would lead to a peaceful settlement.

*. The explanation of this telegram will be found below, under date of the 11th inst. —Ed.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

Paris, 29th September.

In connection with the Ministry of Marine an office of Under-Secretary of State for the Colonies has been created. Monsieur Faure is appointed to the office.

London, 5th October.

A Conservative candidate has been elected for Manchester by a large majority in the room of the deceased member.

The Spanish Government demands that King Alfonso's reply to M. Grévy be published officially.

6th October.

The French Minister of War has resigned, being accused of complicity in the insult offered King Alfonso.

The Official Journal publishes M. Grévy's apology to the King of Spain, and the excitement in Madrid is moderating.

11th October.

The French Government has declined to make any further reparation for the insult to King Alfonso, and the Spanish Ministry has resigned, failing to agree upon its future action. —Daily Press.

His Excellency the Marques de Medina, the new Spanish Minister to Peking, arrived here by the *Anadyr* on the 10th inst.

Mons. M. E. Flesch, Consul-General for France at Shanghai, leaves for home by the French mail of the 18th instant. M. Delaunde, at present with H.E. Mons. Tricou, will then take charge of French interests at this port.

The Hon. J. Russell Young returned to Tientsin per *Fungshan* on the 16th inst.

It is reported that Sir Harry Parkes will probably proceed to Corea in H.M.S. *Superphire* shortly in connection with the yet unratified treaty between that country and England.

His Highness the Maharajah of Johore left for Singapore by the *Deccan* on the 11th inst.

Monsieur Charles Dillon, who formerly was Interpreter of the French Consulate in Shanghai, and for nine or ten years past has been Consul of France in Tientsin, goes home to-morrow in the Messageries packet *Amazon*. Monsieur Dillon's career in China has been of the most honourable kind. Here he was well known as an able official, and, as can be seen in Tientsin, he has during his term of office converted a wide range of swampy land and mud into what has become one of the most thriving settlements in China. The marsh ground has been for the most part reclaimed, roads have been made, streets of houses of excellent construction have been built, fire wells have been dug, and the French settlement is a well policed, orderly, and well managed settlement, to which Chinese traders are flocking in numbers. During Monsieur Dillon's stay in Tientsin various angry questions have been laid at rest, and he has left Tientsin with

the respect and regard of all nationalities represented there. His last service to France was a most arduous one. He left Tientsin in December last to travel through Manchuria in the bitter frost of an unusually cold and stormy winter, went to Hulan, investigated the circumstances of the outrage committed on a French citizen, the Abbé Conraux, and, after collecting all facts, and doing all that could be done to procure justice for the past and assurance of good conduct in the future, travelled by the long line of the Ousuri to the Amoor, and thence via Vladivostok to Shanghai, a long and wearisome journey, toilsome and dangerous, which occupied eight dreary months. We trust Monsieur Dillon's eminent services will be recognized by his Government, and, on account of his services to foreign interests in China, and his known courtesy to men of the British and other treaty nations, we wish him *bon voyage*, and a return to China with due promotion.

M. J. Bonabeau, Secretary to the French Municipal Council, returned to Shanghai from leave of absence by the *Anadyr* on Wednesday. Mr. E. Bastien, who has been appointed French Municipal engineer, arrived here by the *Nagoya Maru* on the 11th inst.

Private advices from Hongkong say that letters from Hanoi and Haiphong report that Monsieur Harmand, Commissioner in Tonquin of the French Republic, made overtures to the Chiefs of the Black Flag bands, and tried, by promises of money, safe conduct, etc., etc., to buy them off. The overtures were received, and discussed; while discussions lasted the Black Flags strengthened their positions, and then refused Monsieur Harmand's offers. That overtures of the kind reported were made we believe is certain, and the result is that the Black Flags think the French position is weak, and no doubt, unless strong reinforcements come out, and quickly, will suffer severely. The French expedition is daily declining in strength, and even now, if the Yunnan braves—for such the Black Flags are—made a strong attack, the French forces might be destroyed. From all accounts we can gather the French Government from the first has underrated the forces to be overcome. In consequence the French troops had to take the initiative in the deadly months of July, August and September, with, as issue, a frightful loss of men by sunstroke and malarial diseases. The troops, left practically in stockades besieged by the Yunnan men, are weak from exposure, and unfit for even operations of a few days from the base of march; and if the French ever wish to get beyond their present stringently circumscribed radius, 15,000 to 20,000 fresh men, well equipped, and with abundant transport, must be acquired—a state of things unattainable, as the Annam and Tonquin coolies will not work for France, and all coolies required must be brought from Canton, of all places. But without such aid no progress or conquest can be made. We regret very much the suffering of the unhappy French troops, but are disposed to express indignant feelings towards the unprincipled jobbers who have pitched France into this miserable and ruinous war. In this Tonquin business, France in 1883 has been as much the victim of jobbers as she was in the Mexican expedition, which was made to recoup the losses of De Morny, who had invested at a cheap rate in the Jecker bonds. We may add, while speaking on the matter, that the Black Flags are well equipped with Remington and other breech-loading rifles, and, as is now seen after every fight, empty brass cartridge cases are found strewn about. Now, how do the Black Flag bands get rifles and new pattern cartridges? Some day the Teung-li Yamén will be asked to answer this most pertinent question.

We have received letters from official sources at Nanking confirming our previous

information with respect to the reconnoitring expedition of P'êng Yü-lin to Annam. The Viceroy, after many delays, left on Monday for Woosung.

A Correspondent at Tientsin informs us that the disturbances at Canton have been much discussed by the Chinese there, and some remarkable views on the manner in which the difficulty should be settled have been expressed. They say that as the event which gave rise to the whole disturbance was an accident on board the *Hankow*, a steamer belonging to Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, that firm ought to be adjudged to pay the whole amount of the damage caused during the riots. With regard to the sentence passed on Logan, our Correspondent states that the Chinese in Tientsin regard the sentence as very severe, and look upon the declaration of the Viceroy of Canton, that he will not be answerable for the maintenance of order, as a mere shift to rid himself of the responsibility placed upon him by Sir Harry Parkes's alleged telegram. Opinion is, however, divided, many of the Tientsin men taking the side of the Viceroy of Canton.

Letters from the North mention a rumour that Sir George Bowen, Governor of Hongkong, who has recently visited the Great Wall, was robbed of all his personal effects while staying at the Nan-k'ou village inn. If this be true, we are afraid that Sir George neglected the solemn warning which greets every traveller at the hostelry in question. It is a clean, contrived little house, but its reputation is very bad; so bad, indeed, that somebody—we know not who—has scribbled some lines upon the walls of the principal room, in French, to the following effect: "*N.B.*—Travellers are warned that they are in a country of robbers. Consequently they will do well to make their arrangements in advance with the innkeeper and the muletter.—A Philanthropist." Underneath is written, in another hand, "This advice ought to be taken." The village in question is inhabited almost entirely by Mohammedans, and although the followers of the Prophet in China have many virtues—cleanliness and intelligence, for instance—honesty is not one of them. It was at this very inn that some members of the British Legation got into a serious difficulty some years ago, having been similarly robbed and then bullied. It is to be hoped that in this instance Sir George will be able to recover his stolen property.

A rumour was current among the Chinese on Monday that the Viceroy of Chihli had consented to advance ten lakhs of taels to the China Merchants' Company. This we believe to have been inaccurate, subsequent information placing the amount at a lakh and a half. The position of many large Chinese financial concerns is exceedingly precarious at the present moment. There were rumours on Monday of some native banks being in difficulties, and we heard that the manager of one of them had disappeared. So far as we could ascertain, no failures took place. It is thought however that the losses of many of the Chinese produce-merchants are likely to result in failures, and one dealer on the French Concession was said to have stopped for about Tls. 80,000.

An unpleasant story is being told in connection with the recent failure of the T'ai-lai Bank. It appears that some of the moneys contributed to the flooded-out residents in Shantung were paid into this Bank, to the amount of something over Tls. 10,000. For this sum the managers of the bank issued notes on their Shanai correspondents, which, in the ordinary course of business, would have been honoured on presentation in that province. But the representatives of the Shanai bankers in Shanghai now inform the Committee of the Fund that, as the T'ai-lai Bank has broken, the bills will be dishonoured. Great indignation is felt by

the subscribers to the Fund at so large a sum of money being lost, or, as they bluntly put it, used by the managers of the Bank for their own purposes, and two of the managers have been accused to the Tao-t'ai of embezzlement. It is unknown of course what steps the Tao-t'ai will take in the matter; but feeling runs pretty high against the two men.

On Monday night the French Police arrested a native banker and his clerks, the creditors stating that the former was going to run away. The bank is said to owe Tls. 69,000, but the banker states he has one debtor who owes him Tls. 27,000.

Dr. Jamieson, in a letter which we publish elsewhere, allirms our expressed conviction that certain facts connected with the General Hospital were not unknown to him to be "absolutely without justification." It is in the nature of things impossible to disprove a negative of this kind, but if it be the fact that Dr. Jamieson was ignorant—as he evidently means us to infer he was—that negotiations have been for some time in progress, and have only just been completed, for the acquisition of more ground at the General Hospital for the express purpose of providing proper small-pox accommodation, we can only say that such ignorance is phenomenal in a gentleman who takes such a keen interest in the welfare of the Hospital as Dr. Jamieson evidently does, and who is moreover in constant communication with more than one of the responsible authorities of that institution. Further we would venture to observe that, before giving publicity to the serious charges he has made against the Governors of the Hospital under the ægis of an official and widely circulated journal, it would have been civil, to say no more, on Dr. Jamieson's part to have ascertained from them the true state of the case. To ignorance which is culpable in a person having the care of the sick people, or to no less culpable discourtesy to gentlemen who are doing good service, gratuitously, to the community, Dr. Jamieson must plead guilty, and it is a matter of indifference to us which horn of the dilemma he prefers. We will, however, go further, and say that the statement we made was on indisputable authority and from a source which is not unfriendly to Dr. Jamieson. We did not attribute dishonesty, and trust that Dr. Jamieson has no occasion to pick up such a cap as that.

The *China Review* for July and August contains some valuable articles. Dr Lockhart contributes a notice of Dr. Chalmers's pamphlet on the 'Structure of Chinese Characters', in which he speaks in a strain of high appreciation of the excellence of the work and the humility of its author. Some of the analyses of characters quoted by Dr. Lockhart are exceedingly striking. The word *shih*, to eat, is compounded of two parts meaning respectively 'to bring together' and 'a spoonful.' The character *ch'ieh*, to steal, is a perfect picture of 'scores' of 'weevils' pilfering 'grain' in a 'vault'—the words we have enclosed in commas being all brought together in the complicated ideograph in question. The word *ch'ên*, dust, portrays in a similar manner that which is raised by a 'deer' while 'running.' An article on Chinese Guilds and their Rules should be practically useful to all readers, especially as it concludes with a Code of Guild Regulations carefully translated. Rule 24 reads that "it is agreed that after a member of a guild has been expelled, or a local firm proscribed by the members, all intercourse with such parties shall be suspended. Any member discovered to have had dealings with them, either from sympathy or friendship, shall be fined a hundred taels." An article is contributed by that most indefatigable worker, Mr. E. H. Parker, on the Dialect of Yangchow, from which we judge that the language spoken at the "Oxford of China" must be both difficult and harsh. M. Piton continues to plough his way

bravely through the History of the Tsin Dynasty, and Herr Kleinwächter supplements with fresh arguments his recent ingenious attempt to prove that our Arabic figures are derived from Chinese numerals and were transmitted to Europe through Central Asia. A sketch of the great poet Su Tung-p'o during his exile in Hainan, by Mr. J. N. Jordan, is pleasant reading, and is in fact the only popular article in the present number. It is probably by a misprint that Mr. Jordan is made to refer to the historian S'ü-ma Kuang as S'ü Ma-kuang. Apropos of such slips, we notice that the venerable author of the latest Chinese Dictionary is continually spoken of here and elsewhere as "William." Now Dr. Williams's name is not William, and he may justly complain of this constant misapprehension of his patronymic (see page 2). In the Notices of New Books we have reviews of Mr. Dixon's 'Land of the Morning,' the late Dr. Geerts's 'Produits de la Nature, Japonaise et Chinoise,' and 'Idiomatiac Dialogues in the Peking Colloquial.' 'Notes and Queries' are as interesting and full of curious information as ever, and the number is altogether fully up to the average.

An extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Shanghai Electric Company was convoked for four o'clock on Monday at the Shanghai Club, for the purpose of considering the increase of the nominal capital of the company by the issue of guaranteed shares, and of electing a new director. After half-an-hour had elapsed without a sufficient number of shareholders appearing to form a quorum, the meeting was declared adjourned till that day week at the same hour and place, when, under the rules of the company, the business can be proceeded with whether there is a quorum present or not.

We had the very great pleasure on Monday night of inspecting the incandescent lamps recently imported by the Shanghai Electric Light. Passing through several rooms blazing with the brilliant glare of the arc lamps we found ourselves in a small office in which the new illuminators were fixed. Their appearance is exceedingly pretty. Under a bell-shaped shade of ground glass there hangs a clear glass globe resembling a soap-bubble, in the centre of which is an irregular spiral, glowing with light as intense and pure as that of a diamond. Inspected closely, the white fire of this spiral has an effect at once strange and beautiful, while the illumination it affords, so far from being trying to the eye, is exceedingly pleasant. It has also the great advantage of being almost entirely heatless, and will be invaluable for offices in the hot weather. We understand that the Electric Company will be in a position to provide incandescent burners to the community almost immediately, and we venture to predict that they will be much appreciated by those who use them. Their cost is less than that of gas.

A most extraordinary accident, happily unattended with serious results, occurred on the Electric Co.'s premises yesterday evening shortly after ten o'clock. The dress of a lady visitor caught in the shaft, and to save her from personal injury, the engines had to be stopped. This explains the sudden extinction of the lights in the Settlement. The only damage done was to the dress.

The Hongkong newspapers are not acting generously towards Sir Pope Hennessy. When the late Governor of Hongkong was appointed to Mauritius, there was at first a chorus of delight, and then a chorus of sympathy with the Mauritians, who were regarded as a colony of innocents about to be given over to the tender mercies of a Herod. Predictions were not wanting that the Mauritians would protest, and that the advent of Sir P-pope would be the signal for tumults, for disputes, for quarrels, and for ineffectual struggles against his tyranny. But nothing of all this has been fulfilled.

Sir Pope and his new subjects continue to be on the best of terms with each other, all accounts that reach us from the island tell of harmony and the best of feeling. It is on this subject that the tone of the Hongkong papers is so much to be deprecated. Instead of expressing pleasure at the friendly relations between the Governor and the Mauritians, and a hope that they will continue, the *Daily Press* unpleasantly remarks that "Sir John Pope Hennessy appears to have secured the *claque* in Mauritius," and doubts whether at the end of five or six years he will be looked upon as the sincere friend he now appears to be. We have no means of knowing whether he will or not, nor are we partisans of the late Governor of Hongkong in any sense of the word; but the colonial newspapers seem thoroughly vexed and disappointed at the popularity of Sir Pope in Mauritius, and, what is worse, they have not the sense to hide it.

Seven of the prisoners charged with complicity in the recent numerous cases of theft and destruction of the telegraph cables were on Monday brought up at the Mixed Court for final trial and judgment. The bench was occupied by his Worship Chen; Mr. Carles, British Assessor; and Mr. W. Patersen, Acting-Consul for Denmark; the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company was represented by Mr. Dunn, and the Great Northern Company by Mr. Henningsen. The prisoners comprised two ironmongers of Tong-ka-jao, near Woosung, charged with receiving a quantity of the stolen cable, and five boatmen and fisherman charged with being concerned in the actual robberies. An eighth prisoner was stated to be in the hospital, too ill to be brought to the Court. All the seven men were examined at length by his Worship Chen, in Chinese, and the magistrate and Assessors then retired to consider their decision. On the Court reopening, it was announced that the magistrate's decision would be submitted to the Taotai for confirmation before being published. In the course of the proceedings, Mr. Dunn stated that he believed the two men charged with receiving the cable were well provided with money, as it appeared that they were in the habit, before each marauding expedition started, of advancing \$30 to the men for expenses, besides agreeing to take the proceeds of the robbery at a fixed rate—\$2.25 or \$2 50 per picul. There were three boats engaged in the traffic, and two of these had been captured. The chief of the thieves, Mr. Dunn said, was a rich man, having property in Hongkew; and the boats taken were worth about Tls. 300 or \$300. The recent robberies from the Great Northern Telegraph Company are: On the 6th May, at about a mile and a half from Woosung, 0.020 miles of cable, weighing 6.75 tons per mile; on the 14th August, at about six miles from Woosung 0.625 miles, weighing ten tons per mile; on the 13th September, at about six miles from Woosung, 0.931 miles of cable weighing 6.75 tons per mile; total, 1.576 miles of new cable. In addition to this, on the 4th September a quantity of the core of the cable was taken out at about twenty miles from Woosung, without the wires being cut, the mode in which the destructive work was done showing that the thieves must have had considerable knowledge of the construction and working of telegraphic cables. The portions of cable recovered comprise 140 small pieces, from four feet to twenty feet long, weighing altogether lbs. 3,443; and five long pieces, from sixty feet to 915 feet in length, altogether 1,440 feet. All this belongs to the Eastern Extension Company, and in addition lbs. 3,985 belonging to the Great Northern Company. It appears that the robberies were made systematically, and that the fishing village on this side of the Lan-shan Crossing had become a well known and flourishing market for the sale of copper wire, and steel wires

of the finest quality. The copper wire was melted into bars, and the steel wire, made of the finest crucible steel, was cut into short lengths, packed in bound bundles weighing about one-third of a picul, and sold to men who made the fine material into hails. The price at which the steel wire was sold varied from 2½ to 2½ dollars per picul, and the principal demand came from Soochow and Hangchow. The loss to the telegraph companies is of large amount. The finished cable, when brought out by specially fitted vessels, and laid, costs at a very high rate per mile, and the loss of traffic caused by one cut is very serious. To hire a steamer for repairs costs 240 taels per day, and there are other charges for coolie-hire, steam-launches, lighters, etc. The damage done by the thieves, too, by which the cables have suffered, extends over a length of 30 miles. In many places the lines have been one-half or one-third cut through, and then, apparently, dropped, perhaps when some foreign vessel came in sight. Before the actual injury done can be computed a thorough and expensive survey of the lines must be made, and until that is done the recent repairs done to the three cables of the Great Northern Company and the one cable of the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company can only be regarded, unfortunately, as of a temporary nature. We are informed that Shao, the Shanghai Taotai, has behaved well in the matter, and besides giving prompt assistance at the outset promises to assist in all reasonable ways to prevent a recurrence of the robberies. The thieves are hardy men, mostly rather divers and wreckers than fishermen. They had good boats, and were well provided with files, heavy hammers, and cold chisels. The chief thief is said to be able to dive into and do work in 100 feet depth of water. The divers are well-to-do tradesmen. We understand that Li Hung-chang has been communicated with on the subject of the constant robberies of the cables, and has directed the Taotai to issue proclamations along the seaboard on the subject, and to take other steps to protect the cables.

It is reported that his Worship Chen lately applied to the Taotai to be transferred. The Taotai referred the matter to the Viceroy, who replied that Mr. Chen was liked by foreigners and had better retain his present position.

We are glad to see that Li Chung-tang's foreign drilled Band has arrived to Shanghai to give concerts in aid of the Yellow River Flood Fund.

A rumour apparently emanating from a feverish brain was current in the Settlements on the 10th inst. to the effect that the *Hwaiyuen* had been captured by a French man-of-war while conveying arms and ammunition to the south. The steamer left here on Friday for Canton. The originator of the rumour is probably the same person who gave a detailed account of the loss of the *Hwaiyuen* some time ago.

Gunner Johnson won the Monthly Challenge Cup of the Volunteer Artillery with 42 points on Friday morning.

A few days ago two Chinese sold some silk valued at about Tls. 800 to a native broker in Hankow Road. When they went for their money on Sunday morning, they found the broker's house closed and the occupant departed for parts unknown.

A novel contest was witnessed on the French Concession on Thursday evening, the object being to test the stream of water from the hydrants as compared with that delivered by the "Torrent" steam-fire engine. Equal lengths of delivery hose were attached to the hydrant and the engine. An eye witness states that the "Torrent" threw its stream further than the hydrant, though there was not much difference between them.

The *Triomphante*, French ironclad, 4,176 tons, 17 guns and 400 men arrived at Woosung on Saturday from Hongkong and

Foochow. She is commanded by Captain Baux.

Seventeen policemen are expected here towards the end of this month. Some of them we learn have been many years in the force at home, and none of them are under five feet ten inches in height. One, we are told, is over six feet.

The hull of the *Earl of Elgin* was sold at auction by Mr. E. W. Rice on the 10th inst. for Tls. 1,500. The purchasers were Chinese.

His Highness the Maharajah of Johore paid a visit to the Mixed Court on the 10th instant, and was accommodated with a seat on the bench to the right of his Worship Chen, Mr. Carles occupying the third seat. All the cases before the Court were of a petty character.

The old Woosung railway plant—the centipede in the Emperor of China's dream—is again going to be used. The *Haeshin* which arrived from Foochow on the 11th inst. brought some of the carriages and the engine, and these are being transhipped to the *Poochi* for the north, though we have been unable to learn where the line is to be laid down. It is rumoured, however, that the trains will run in connection with the coal mines.

One of the men concerned in the Quango Road murders, who escaped from prison at Soochow, has since been recaptured and was decapitated last week. The two women concerned in the murders were beheaded at the same time, and their bodies afterwards dismembered; the operation being performed by six cuts, including the decapitation. One of the male prisoners concerned committed suicide some months ago, but as he was ordered to be decapitated also, the mandarins ordered the executioner to cut off the head of the coffined corpse. This was done, according to a legal fiction, by drawing a sword across the top of the coffin.

Some months ago, we reported that a foreign woman living in Hongkew had an iron safe stolen from her house during her absence for a short time. The Police succeeded in tracing the safe and arresting the house-boy's security, who was supposed to know where the boy had gone to. Some of the property that had been stolen was also recovered, and the case has been remanded to enable the Police to find the house-boy.

A fatal accident occurred in Nanking Road on Wednesday afternoon. Two carriages going opposite ways were approaching each other, and an opium-smoking Chinaman, while attempting to cross the road between them, was knocked down by one of the carriages and severely injured. He was removed to the Shantung Road Hospital but died an hour afterwards from concussion of the brain.

We mentioned some weeks ago that the widow of a water-coolie who had died of cholera had accused a detective and three others, one of them a shopkeeper, of being the cause of her husband's death. Although none of the parties had anything to do with the coolie's death, which resulted from cholera, the widow was so persistent that the shopkeeper thought it best to come to terms with the woman, and paid her two thousand dollars.

A native gentleman living in Hongkew informs us that it is the custom with some of the Japanese women living in Boone Road to engage jinrichas and then decline to pay for their use. When the coolies ask for their money, the women call some Japanese men who beat the coolies and drive them away, while the native policemen take no notice. A case of this kind occurred on Tuesday night. Our correspondent concludes his remarks by stating it would be better to have Sikhs, instead of Chinese constables.

On Wednesday night, a thief, armed with a large knife, cut one of the wire ropes by which the *Kiangkuan* was moored to her pontoon. The consequence was that the

steamer commenced to swing off the poutoon with the tide; but as this was quickly noticed, the vessel was made fast again. It was then found that a large portion of the rope was missing. The thief attempted to run away with his plunder, but unfortunately for him he jumped into a sampan belonging to the C. M. S. N. Co., and was caught. At the French Mixed Court yesterday it transpired that two men were concerned in the robbery, so the Magistrate remanded the case till the other man is captured.

The *Glenely* arrived here on 9th inst. The *Straits Times* gives the following particulars concerning her:—The *Glenely* is 360 feet long, 43 feet beam, with 24 feet depth of hold. She is 1,956 tons register, and can carry 4,000 tons of deadweight. Her engines are 550 nominal horse power, and she can steam $14\frac{1}{2}$ knots with 60 tons of coal a day, and 11 knots with 30 tons. She brought out 700 tons of machinery to Penang for the new sugar refinery in Province Wellesley. She is fitted with Sir William Armstrong's patent steam steering-gear, which is connected by a telephone with the engine-room and the Chief Engineer's room. She is commanded by Captain Bowden Quartly. Her Chief Officer is Mr. Brass, formerly of the *Glenfruin*, with Mr. Howell, formerly of the *Glengyle*, Mr. Bannerman, and Mr. Culley as Second, Third, and Fourth Officers. She has six Engineers, Mr. Henderson being Chief Engineer. Dr. Grant, of Aberdeen University, is Medical Officer, and Mrs. Millar, formerly of the "Clan" line, Stewardess. The *Glenely's* passenger accommodation, both first class and second, is excellent in every respect.

One of the Hongkong newspapers has done us the honour to reproduce, in the gravest manner, a letter addressed to the editor of the *Lancet* and a series of replies alleged to have been "received," which appeared in our columns a few weeks back. As the paper does not acknowledge them to us, we fear it is under the delusion that the whole was taken from the *Lancet*. We should have thought that anybody above the unsuspecting age of four-and-a-half would have detected the hoax after reading the first few lines. The original letter, of course, was *bona fide*, and this misled the wielder of the scissors and pleyer of the paste in our contemporary's office. The so-called replies were fictitious, and the signatures all wrong.

The Police Magistrate of Hongkong has sent the charge of libelling Mr. John McNeill Price, Surveyor-General, brought against Mr. Fraser-Smith of the *Telegraph*, to the Supreme Court for trial.

The *Daily Press* has the following:—With reference to the previous telegram from Manila announcing that a typhoon was raging to the North of Luzon, we are indebted to the Harbour Master for the following:—"1st October, 1883. The announced typhoon crossed yesterday the provinces North of Luzon and seemed to be travelling to the W.N.W."

The *China Mail* says:—The French gunboat *Estoc* has been lost on the voyage from Saigon to Haiphong. After she had sprung a leak she was taken in tow by the *Drac*, but the tow line parted and it was found impossible to save the vessel. The crew were taken on board the *Drac*. The *Estoc* was one of the oldest gunboats on the Cochin-China station and would never have been brought into use again but for the present exigencies of the service.

The *Daily Press* of 4th October says:—A private letter received here yesterday from Canton states that one mercantile firm there has made arrangements to remove to Macao, being profoundly convinced that ere long the Chinese will make another attack upon Shameen. It is also believed in Canton that war between France and China is imminent, and large numbers of the wealthier Chinese residents have left the city and gone into the interior.

It also states that the Chinese newspapers published in Hongkong were all warned by the Registrar-General, on the 17th September, to be careful what they wrote, and that they had attended to the caution.

The *China Mail* says:—Dr. Doberck, Government Astronomer of Hongkong, who has returned from his trip to the Northern ports, brings the satisfactory intelligence that matters meteorological have a very satisfactory aspect there, and that it should be only a matter of time before there is a system of proper observation put into good working order along the coast. It appears that some ten years ago it was decided that the Customs officials at the ports should be provided with suitable instruments, of English make, for meteorological observations, but that owing to the want of specialists, little or no use has been made of them. Dr. Doberck went up as far as Hankow, carefully studying the configuration of the country. He contemplates leaving Hongkong this week for Formosa, where, at South Cape, a self-recording station is to be established. To verify the instruments, to draw up plain but minute instructions, and to train observers, will take some little time, especially when one learns that the new Astronomer has selected some fifty places for observations, and submitted the list, for approval, to the Inspector-General of the Imperial Maritime Customs. A station is suggested for Haiphong also, and with the very effective observatories already in Manila and Japan, a large field of labour is thus marked out, and there can be no doubt that the result of collecting, revising, and publishing the news thus obtained will be of material use to the shipping community. Père Dechevrens, of the Sicaewai Observatory, known for his good works on anemometry, and vertical motion of the wind, will be only too glad to assist to the best of his power.

The *Daily Press* understands that, in view of the complications existing between France and China, the Portuguese Government are sending 3,000 Goa troops and two ironclads to Macao to strengthen their position in that colony.

The *Foochow Herald* of the 11th instant, says:—"A strange phenomenon was observable three consecutive evenings last week; a patch of the sky over the city direction, appearing one blaze of light, as though the reflection from a large conflagration. The first night, a large concourse of the natives wended their way towards where they expected to find a fire, but upon reaching the locality indicated, the sky had resumed its ordinary nocturnal appearance, and no news was obtainable of any fire having occurred. Upon the third night, though at a later hour, the strange sight was even more vivid, and still unaccountable. We were inclined to think that an unusually large quantity of shells were being calcined for the manufacture of chunam, but we find that in the locality named, this trade is not carried on to so large an extent as to account for what remains a mystery." It may be worthy of note that the same phenomenon was witnessed at Shanghai during the same week, and it had so much the appearance of a fire that a prominent member of the Shanghai Fire Department went up to the top of one of the bell towers to ascertain where the fire was.

The same paper says:—Queueless Chinamen, it appears, whether naturally bald, or having suffered the loss of their treasured capillary adornment through the perpetration of some crime, are debarred the privilege of marriage. A native of Foochow named Cheon, whose financial position so sufficiently atoned for his appearance as to be able to secure him a fair fiancée, had the presumption to aspire to connubial bliss. The nuptials were duly celebrated on Friday last, and on the following morning the unfortunate Chinaman was vividly reminded of his infringement of the law, by being led into the city

for execution. The deceased's property is now confiscated to the coffers of the State, and as the widow is thus left unprovided for, we presume that she will threaten self-immolation, and thus secure a pension from the officials representing the Government. Desirable as it is that cases of self-sacrifice should be put a stop to, we fear that the expense attending the prevention of the recently contemplated act (which amounted to \$2,000, exclusive of the pension) will rather incline the local mandarins to close their eyes to the commission of such offences.

The *Rising Sun* says:—H. B. M.'s gunboat *Linnet* arrived from Vladimír Bay on Saturday evening (6th), and was followed by the gunboat *Zephyr* from Vladivostok on Tuesday night. After coaling and provisioning, the *Linnet* proceeded to Hongkong on Sunday morning, and the *Zephyr* to Foochow on Thursday morning. Both vessels were despatched post haste from the north by Admiral Wiles in accordance with instructions received from Sir Harry Parkes, whose despatch fortunately succeeded in finding the Admiral and his fleet cooling themselves in one of the most out-of-the-way places in the extreme north of the station, exactly four-and-a-half days after the outbreak at Canton,—at which time we presume the telegram was sent as far as the lines extended, as it was to the trouble at Canton and the generally unsettled state of affairs in China that it had reference. We hear that the despatch in question stated that unless the majority of the British fleet returned to China immediately, the aid of foreign men-of-war would have to be invoked to ensure the better protection of British lives, property, and interests at the open ports,—a broad hint that the Admiral, as obstinate as he has proved himself to be, will not dare to ignore.

According to a telegram dated New York 10th September, the total amount of the American cotton crop is estimated at 6,950,000 bales.

Here are some statistics of suicides in great cities which we have found in a home paper:—Paris it will be seen occupies a very unenviable position. The ratio of suicides for every million inhabitants averages yearly 402, while in Naples it is only 34. The French capital is thus the saddest as well as the gayest city in Europe. The ratio for other cities is as follows: Stockholm, 354 (this high average is quite unaccountable in the northern city, where the pressure of life is not great); Copenhagen, 302; Vienna, 287; Brussels, 271; Dresden, 240; St. Petersburg, 206; Florence, 180; Berlin, 170; New York, 144; Genoa, 135; London, 87; and Rome, 74. London thus occupies a very advantageous position in the list. With regard to New York, it is said that the majority of the suicides in that city are Germans.

Mitchell's Maritime Register states it is reported from Halifax that the wreck of a vessel has just been discovered which has been missing for more than 10 years. The wreck, too, was found in an extraordinary manner. Some months ago the English steamer *Cedar Grove* was wrecked near Torbay on the Canadian coast, several lives being lost. A diver who was carrying on his operations at the *Cedar Grove* on the 16th ultimo was surprised to come across another vessel, which was lying close to the *Cedar Grove*, but in deep water. The name *New Dominion* could be distinctly read on the stern of the stranger. It appeared that the brig *New Dominion* sailed from Cow Bay, Cape Breton, in December, 1872, with a cargo of coals for Yarmouth (U.S.). Since then nothing had been heard of the vessel or her crew until the discovery made by the diver. It is assumed that the *New Dominion* struck upon the same rock as the *Cedar Grove*, after sliding off into deep water, and taking down with her all on board.

Miscellaneous Articles.

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF RATEPAYERS.

WE revert once more to the recent meeting of the Ratepayers in order to point out some weaknesses in our system of Municipal government which were then revealed. The report of the Watch Committee on the police and the new scheme of reorganisation of that body, were presented to the public some two months ago, apparently with the full support of the Council. The Chairman prefaced it with a short note, and the three members of the Watch Committee signed the Report, and, as far as the public could know, acquiesced in all the proposals in the scheme of reorganisation. Yet, at the very opening of business at the Special Meeting, the Chairman of the Council when proposing the first resolution, to the effect that the scheme should be accepted and carried into execution, said that he did not wish it to be understood that the Council had adopted the scheme. The Council, he further stated, did not recommend it to the Ratepayers exactly in the form in which it had been put forth. Mr. Purdon only expressed the feeling of all sensible men when he said that these statements of the Chairman must have astonished the meeting. And still further astonishment must have been felt when the Chairman announced that he objected to the introduction of Sikhs into the police force. Probably no great surprise was experienced when Mr. Morrison announced that he also objected to the Sikhs, and in a general way to many of the proposals in the new police scheme. While the scheme was under discussion in the Council Chamber he and others seem to have treated it with something more than friendly consideration; "We all felt that we did not wish to get up an opposition to a scheme which in the main we all approved," Mr. Morrison explained. But at that time there was no scheme, for the proposals of the Watch Committee did not become an official scheme until they had been apparently, that is as far as the public could know, approved by their being issued to the Ratepayers with all the formality which accompanies the presentation of the year's accounts or any other Municipal document. The public only know the Watch Committee as a department of the Council; it is to the Council to which every one looks, and it is only the Council that can act for the Ratepayers. The proper time for discussion among the Council of all proposals which are to be submitted to the consideration of the Ratepayers is before these are issued in an official form. Well might a Ratepayer protest warmly at the meeting against the course which some of the leading members of the Council had taken on this point; and we are sure that what this gentleman and Mr. Purdon said have been heartily approved by the community. It is of course absurd to

talk of the Municipal Council as if it were a Cabinet, all the members of which are obliged to support the policy adopted by the majority. But between enforced acquiescence, and the course pursued by some of the members of Council on this last occasion, of misleading the community by their silence with regard to a most important part of the scheme, there are other courses which might have been adopted. The Chairman might have intimated in his introductory note to the Report and the proposed reorganization, that some of the members of the Council were not prepared to support the whole scheme. The names of these members and the nature of their objections might or might not have been stated; the bare intimation that there were differences of opinion in the Council regarding some of the proposals would have been sufficient, as the public would not then have been misled as regards the value to be placed upon the Report. Or, following the custom of Committees of both Houses of Parliament when reporting on measures which have been under consideration or subjects on which they have been holding enquiries, the objectors to any part of the scheme might have placed their opinions on record, and these might have formed an appendix to the Report by the Municipal Council. Or, again, the attenuated minutes of the proceedings of the Municipal Council which are published weekly in our columns might have been used to convey to the Ratepayers the knowledge that on certain points there was a difference of opinion in the Council. That would have been sufficient, and the public would have been saved from witnessing and reading of the astonishing proceedings at the special meeting. Much of the rashness, vacillation and want of judgment of which the present Council has been accused has, no doubt, been owing to the same causes as this which the speech of the Chairman revealed on this occasion. It would seem as if, during their term of office, now one member of the Council, or one party in it, and again others, obtained the upper hand, and their colleagues hastily adopted their views, only to modify or discard them on important points, when they found that a considerable section of the public disapproved their action or proposals. The question of the introduction of Sikhs as policemen is settled now, and the only use in referring to it again is to illustrate the easy way in which those who had suggested their employment gave up their proposals as soon as they were seriously attacked. The whole Council have been thereby placed in a position which cannot have been gratifying to the individual members of it. Even those of them who objected to the introduction of Sikhs, cannot think that they put a particularly dignified figure at the meeting, while those who considered that Sikhs would form a good element in our police force

must feel that the position they occupied had been made unnecessarily unpleasant for them. Much of the misunderstanding between the public and the Council on this question, and on others that have arisen, would have been prevented had the community been better informed of what was doing in the Municipal Chamber. Serious misunderstandings of the action of the Council would be prevented if more was made known of what took place at its meetings. If the objection to the reporting of the discussions at these is insuperable, the minutes might be used to supply all the information which was requisite, or that the community would care to learn.

THE CHINESE ABACUS.

THE Chinese shop-keeper has in the course of centuries come to feel the abacus a necessity. Throughout the Empire no shop is without it. It is produced on the instant whenever a calculation is to be made. Even the prices of the commonest articles are scarcely announced to a stranger without a previous calculation, and it is the same with the question, What is the exchange to-day?—The click of the balls as they are driven against the sides of the tray or come into collision with each other is the inseparable accompaniment of shop-keeping. Being now a necessity it seems as if it was always a necessity, and it is difficult to appreciate the fact that five or six centuries ago the novelty of the times spreading with amazing speed into every corner of the land was the *suan-pan*. It was during the Yuen dynasty, when Marco Polo was in the service of the Grand Khan, that this change was being inaugurated. Early in the Ming dynasty at the end of the fourteenth century it was completed, and China then became, so far as the use of the abacus is concerned, what it now is. Those were the days when mental arithmetic was decisively abandoned, and commercial operations were made mechanical. The Chinese are great in their fingers. All trades requiring much dexterity are likely to succeed with them. The intellectual process is with them not so much to be relied upon as that of the fingers working with balls strung upon wires. The whole nation, as by instinct, when once they learned the way, took to the use of the abacus as the indispensable companion of the account-book in the merchant's office, in the shop, and in the yamen.

A native mathematician in the reign of Kang Hsi named Mei Wên-ting was the first Chinese author to take notice of the abacus. He was, as a writer, amazingly prolific. Wylie in his *Notes on Chinese Literature* has given the names of more than thirty of his works. One was an account of implements used in calculation. The Emperor on one of his southern progresses accorded an audience to Mei Wên-ting at the city of

Ts'ehon in Shantung. The Emperor engaged his services in the preparation of the mathematical works which were then being compiled with the assistance of foreign missionaries, and were published with imperial funds. The old man won the Emperor's heart. Both were very fond of mathematics, and Mei's knowledge of the literature of his country bearing on this subject was unrivalled. But as he was already an old man he returned home and there worked for the Emperor's publications. It is he that tells us about the abacus which had in his time been in use for three centuries. He bases it upon the calculating slips which had been employed from before the Christian era. They were four inches long, according to modern measurement, and extremely narrow. Calculators were accustomed to place them upright for units as far as to five, and then horizontally. Suppose that you have several such counters before you, and you wish to express 6742. You make I answer for six and I for seven. You place your counters $\text{I} \text{ I} \text{ III} \text{ II}$ to express the given number. You have here a place for units, for tens, for hundreds and for thousands. The system is like our own, which we acquired through the Arabs from India in the Middle Ages. Our author has shown that in the year B.C. 543 this mode of writing numbers was in use in China. A passage in the Classics proves it.* Any one who has watched the Chinese calculator with the abacus before him must have noticed that the final result only of the process remains as a single sum when he has done. It is expressed by him in this brief way because the principle that each step to the left means multiplication by ten enables him to be thus concise. The old Chinese were brought to this fruitful discovery by the use of the above-mentioned bamboo counters four inches in length, and these came into use because the manipulation with milfoil straws, 49 in. number, had already become familiar to them in the ancient divining. The reproduction of China's past is gradually accomplished by the work of native investigators, and if the archaeological efforts of men like Mei Wên-t'ing were better known in Europe he and scholars like him would rank among those who deserve our thanks for digging out of old books a variety of interesting facts about ancient China. As a class these men are extremely patriotic, and they therefore shew a strong desire to attribute to their own country the

discoveries of western genius. For example, they claim the abacus. This invaluable implement of calculation, which is in every one's hands, they regard as their own invention. Yet it crept unobserved into use at the time of the domination in China of Genghis Khan's descendants. It was known centuries before in Europe and the western countries of Asia, and may easily have reached China from those parts of the world in the thirteenth century. The Greek abacus was an oblong frame having wires stretched across it, which were strung with perforated ivory balls or beads. The Roman abacus had the beads working in grooves without wires, and every Roman youth was taught to calculate with this simple machine. Both these implements are in common use in China, the first as an abacus and the second to arrange cash. Genghis Khan did much more good by his conquests than he ever intended. Among other things he opened a path for the abacus to find its way to China. But the Chinese must still be allowed the glory of having known the principle of decimal place more than two thousand years ago, and possibly of having in Bactria taught it to the Indians before the time of Christ.

A LONG-FELT WANT.

OF making many books to teach Chinese to foreign students there seems to be virtually no end. When we compare the abundance of Manuals, Dialogues, Vocabularies, Dictionaries and so forth now at the disposition of those who wish to dip into the mysteries of the Chinese language, with the entire absence of such aids twenty or thirty years ago, one must admit that the facilities afforded are both numerous and great. Much, doubtless, yet remains to be done; at the same time so much has already been done that one is tempted to wish that the enthusiasm of labourers in this especial field could be turned, for once in a way, in another direction. While bookstores teem with manuals for helping foreigners to learn Chinese, there is scarcely a single work for helping Chinese to learn English. Natives who speak English fluently have in nearly every instance learned to do so either abroad, or in some of the foreign schools established in China and Hongkong. The system pursued in these institutions is no doubt efficient enough, but still there are numbers of Chinese who are anxious to learn a foreign tongue and are yet absolutely unable, from various causes, to enter themselves as students in a regular school. These men constitute a class which is yearly increasing in both numbers and importance. Even houseboys and coolies may not unfrequently be caught in the act of poring over some fasty-looking little book of English and Chinese vocabularies, and emitting in an undertone a succession of peculiar sounds confidently supposed to represent cer-

tain definite English words. One of these laudable attempts at representing our barbarous polysyllables by means of the monosyllabic characters of China lies now before us. Each English word has appended to it its signification in Chinese, and what purports to be its pronunciation. Some, of course, present little or no difficulty to the translator. Such words as "sea," "tea," "eye," "low," "too," "one" and "way" are each easily represented by any one of a dozen or more Chinese words the pronunciation of which is almost exactly similar; indeed there are numbers similarly amenable. But it is difficult to recognise in such strange combinations as *ên-tou-sz-tan-tê, mên-hsing*, and *t'i-t'o-lai-yin-wei-sz-erh-lun* the familiar words "understand," "mention," and "the train has run." Of course the only way in which a Chinese can ever hope to arrive at a correct idea of English pronunciation is to learn the alphabet, and to educate his ear by listening to the spoken language. At least half the indistinctness of a Chinaman's English is attributable to his ignorance of spelling, and when his mind is absolutely vague on this point it is no wonder that his pronunciation is so defective. Another attempt to convey some idea of English to Chinese students lies before us in the shape of a 'Method' on the Ollendorff principle, issued from the Catholic Mission Press at Siccawei. This, no doubt, is a useful book enough. "Where is your cat?—It is at the bottom of the well." "Who will make a choice of these pears?—The merchant will make one." "Is this people industrious?—It is very industrious." "Whose parasol is this?—It is Peter's." "Has the queen a liver-complaint?—Yes, she has a liver-complaint." "Who has a stiff neck?—My old brother has a stiff neck." Nothing could be better calculated to arouse the enthusiasm of a Chinese schoolboy than these cheerful sentences. But the book is open to very great improvement. The great, prime difficulty in teaching English to a Chinese is to make him clearly understand the different parts of speech and the different cases of a noun. No one is more conscious of this defect in the Chinese mind than a man who has read classical works with a so-called native teacher. He comes, say, to a sentence in which it is difficult at first sight to recognise either nominative or verb. The former, perhaps, is "understood;" the latter seems clearly enough to be an adjective. The teacher must be made to understand that every sentence in every language in the world must have a subject and a predicate, otherwise it is not a sentence; and unless the Chinese literate knows what a subject and a predicate are, and recognises them by some name, it is hopeless to get him to put his finger on them. Even if you insist on pinning him down, to begin with, to the subject of the sentence, it is frequently impossible to make him go on to give the pre-

* Legge's Classics, *Tso-chwen*, vol. II page 556. The proof hinges on the old form of the character *hai* 亥, which an old man said contained the number of days in his life. He had lived 73 years. The character *hai* was composed of symbols for 26,660, the number of days he had lived. It consisted of two above and the character for man given thrice below, (see Mei's book *古算器考*) or, as it was then written, three sixes, each being I .

dicate. He will suddenly stop in the middle of a most promising explanation, and finish his sentence in a way that sets the rules of parsing at defiance. Perhaps the subject, he will tell you, is the everlasting 'Holy Man,' or 'Superior Person.' So far, so good. But when you object that what is said about the Superior Person is totally inapplicable to a person of any sort, he replies with a pitying smile that the predicate does not refer to the Superior one at all, but to his doctrine. The confusion introduced by this muddled state of mind is endless and hopeless, and it arises from the want of a systematised grammar of Chinese. Now this want the Jesuit Manual we are writing about supplies to a certain extent. It certainly explains in a very few words, and in clear, readable style, the differences between the parts of speech. We do not think the phrases coined to represent the words 'verb,' 'adjective,' etc., are in every case the happiest that might have been chosen; but that is a detail. The explanations given are sufficient for any ordinarily intelligent Chinese to grasp with very little effort, and are so far exceedingly useful. But the system ought to be extended. Instead of a few of the most elementary rules of grammar being relegated to the Appendix of a conversation-book, while their proper place at the head of each dialogue or chapter is usurped by an English version of them which the student cannot possibly understand, what is wanted is a regular system of grammar in Chinese, with full, clear rules illustrated by judiciously-chosen examples. While fully appreciating the advantages, indeed the absolute necessity, of a copious vocabulary, we hold that the student must be taught how to distinguish a noun from a verb, a nominative from an accusative, and a pronoun from a preposition. Some may think, perhaps, that we are disposed to exaggerate the muddled state of a Chinaman's intellect on these simple rudimentary points. We speak under correction, but we do not think it would be possible to do so. At any rate, it remains a fact that though these distinctions exist, probably, in some latent and obscure form in Chinese, they are barely recognised, and have no distinguishing names. Here, then, is work that is waiting to be done. There are a sufficient quantity of books to teach foreigners Chinese. Let some energetic sinologue set himself to the task of compiling an elementary grammar in simple *wên-lí*, which will be of use to Chinamen studying English, and prove of some service, too, even to Chinese-speaking natives themselves—and their pupils. We have often been applied to for books by Chinese desirous of learning what is really becoming the commercial language of China—for pidgin-English is already doomed—and we can personally testify to the demand. Besides this, the work of compiling such a manual as we suggest would, we are sure, prove full of interest, and con-

stitute excellent practice for a student anxious to improve himself in the written and spoken languages of China.

THE FRENCH-MAIL PAPERS.

THE two political events of the week under review are the death of "King of France and of Navarre" and the manifesto of Prince Bismarck—or what is universally regarded as such—in the *North German Gazette*. With regard to the Comte de Chambord the *Spectator* says that a more dignified spectator of political struggles never existed. "My personality is nothing," he said, "my principle is everything;" his principle being that he would never give up a flag to gain a crown. But, as the *Spectator* points out, the qualities which thus make a lost cause respectable go far at the same time to make it a lost cause. The following sentences put the case of Legitimism truthfully enough:—

In itself, what can be more foolish than the theory of a genuine French Legitimist? To begin with, he believes in a doctrine which goes against all history, which is proscribed by his own infallible Church, and is utterly incapable of any philosophical justification. The Divine Right of Kings is open to every one of these objections; yet a French Legitimist avails himself without so much as a change of countenance. Not only does he swallow them himself, but he gravely offers the dose to others. In a sceptical age, and in the most sceptical of countries, he expects that men will ignore reason, experience, and common-sense, and accept the lineal descendant of the Bourbons as the divinely appointed instrument, whether of blessing or chastisement. The more facts seem to make against his view, the more firmly he clings to it. The French people go on supplying him with conclusive evidence that they prefer any Government that can be named to a Government of the only type that he holds to be endurable, but from each fresh proof he seems to derive additional strength to resist conviction. It is no easy matter to make such a party as this respectable, but the Comte de Chambord has succeeded in doing it.

"The death-scene at Frohsdorf," concludes the writer, "suggests no sense of failure, because failure presupposes effort. It suggests the passing of an idea, not any inability on the part of man to give that idea expression. But for the Comte de Chambord, Legitimacy might have faded away into Constitutional Kingship. He has taken care that it shall vanish like the setting sun of the tropics, with no interlude of twilight to mark the transition from the past to the present." The tone of the *Saturday's* article on this subject is substantially the same, as may be gathered from the following passage:—

The men in the confidence of the Count de Chambord were all like-minded with himself. He would make no concessions to gain a crown, and they would make no concessions to gain one for him. In both cases the use to be made of power stood for more than the mere possession of power. Titular sovereign and titular subjects were agreed in despising a restoration which rested on any compact between King and people. The very notion of a limited or constitutional Monarchy was distasteful to them. Half the mischiefs under which modern society groans could be traced, they thought, to the mistaken efforts which nations had made to put checks on an authority which was divinely intended to be above all restraint. With the death of the Count of Chambord the predominance of this feeling in Royalist councils comes to an end. The Legitimists may be more Royalist than the King himself, but they cannot plan a restoration without consulting the King as to the conditions under which the attempt shall be made. Consequently the place which the Legitimists have hitherto held in the management of the party will in future be held by Orléanists. A singularly impracticable type of politician will be succeeded by a singularly pliable type. Men whose whole notion of strategy rests upon compromise and arrangement will take the place of men who could neither learn nor yield anything.

The *Spectator* regards the now famous article in the *North-German Gazette* as a sudden and humiliating snub administered by Prince Bismarck to France, and seems confident that M. Jules Ferry will profit by the hint. It sees in the satisfactory assurances mentioned by Mr. Gladstone in relation to Admiral Pierre's high-handed dealings with Mr. Shaw, a foretaste of this result. We commend the counsels of the *Spectator* to the attention of our readers:—

If M. Jules Ferry is a really wise statesman, he will do more than release Mr. Shaw, and draw the ties to England closer in every other possible way. He will insist on settling all this foolish business in Annam, even at some little sacrifice to French dignity, and in a way that is absolutely satisfactory to China, and on drawing out of all other disagreeable complications in the East as fast as possible. As for Madagascar, he will give up all idea of further conquest there, and make a treaty of peace with the Hovas, on terms as satisfactory as possible to the French. And then he will let the world know that he is not going to coquette any more with a policy of colonial conquest—which is not, as we believe, half as flattering to French vanity as the statesman who planned it suppose,—but to give himself heartily to the policy of strengthening in every way the French Administration, uniting, so far as it is possible, all republican parties, improving his relations with all foreign Powers, and indicating in every possible way that France is not disposed to sacrifice a tithe of French independence and influence in Europe, for a policy of glitter and tinsel in the East. This is the drift of the comments in the shrewdest of all the French journals, and we are persuaded that it is the true lesson of the situation.

The only point which occurs to us here as somewhat verging on the impracticable is that in relation to Annam. How the writer expects M. Ferry to settle that business "even at some little sacrifice to French dignity, and in a way that is absolutely satisfactory to China," we confess we do not see. This means, if it means anything, that France shall withdraw her Protectorate, acknowledge the suzerainty of China, and generally eat the leek. Such a policy is more than utopian—it is impossible. A *modus vivendi* will surely be come to without that. The *Saturday* of course has something to say about Prince Bismarck's warning too. The warning itself is a good one, but the method of its conveyance is bad. "To judge by the tone adopted very largely by Germany since the war, it is possible that it may develop a Chauvinism of its own, which will be abundantly insolent and overbearing. For the moment, however, the rude language of Prince Bismarck's organ is likely to have a wholesome effect." The writer then continues:—

His lesson to France has indeed, been conveyed in a highly undignified way. Great nations could scarcely find a less creditable channel of communication than the bullying articles of a semi-official newspaper. The practice has, however, been universal on the Continent since the days of Napoleon, and it has the advantage of enabling a Government to speak directly to great masses of men. But, though the channel is discreditable, the message is a good one. In making a very natural and even honourable attempt to reassert her place in the world, France has unfortunately chosen to assume a position that would infallibly have produced a collision with us sooner or later. The French forget that they are not alone in the world with England, and they were being tempted to indulge their love of aggression at our expense. The article in the *Norddeutsche Zeitung* will remind them that they have another and a formidable neighbour who dreads any disturbance of the peace of the world, who looks upon them with profound distrust, and who is not unwilling to strike at them if he thinks they are becoming dangerous. The warning will make them understand the value of the friendship of England, if there is any remnant of foresight and statesmanship left among them.

Turning now to other topics, we find a very carefully-reasoned article in the *Spectator*,

answering the question 'Why are the Jews persecuted?' The reply is, "not simply because in imperfectly organised communities the Jews are the bankers, moneylenders, inn-keepers, and middlemen; but because they are all this not as separate individuals, but as a highly organised guild of foreigners, spreading its tentacles over the whole country till all its material resources are at last in its grasp." The writer then proceeds to show that in preying upon the Gentiles the Jew is simply following out the directions of the Pentateuch and the Talmud. Even so evangelical a prophet as Isaiah promises the Gentiles as the prey of the Chosen People:—"Ye shall eat the riches of the Gentiles, and in their glory shall ye boast yourselves." The Mosaic Law forbade the Jew to lend on usury to one of his own nation, but he was permitted to take usury *ad libitum* of Gentiles. "What is to be the outcome of it all?" asks the *Spectator*. "We can see no solution of the problem so long as the Jews generally believe themselves to be bound by the Mosaic polity as expounded in the Talmud. While they hold to this belief they must continue as a separate people among the nations." The *Spectator* has a most entertaining article on 'Clergymen's Nightmares.' It is true enough we believe that there are clergymen so painfully nervous that they are almost incapacitated from going through a service without mistakes, and that the slightest *contretemps* is sufficient to upset them. The article is suggested by what the writer calls a bright little paper in the last *Argosy*, entitled 'Clerical Haps and Mishaps.' The *Pall Mall* is a specially good number. It is even illustrated, presenting us with portraits of the Comte de Chambord and the Comte de Paris. Among many attractive articles we may mention 'Canon Liddon at St. Paul's,' 'The Lid of Hell'—(Java! which the writer says is now contesting its right to that title with Japan)—'Cholera and Cremation,' 'M. Renan in his Lecture-room' and 'Poor Relations of the Muses.' But if we began to summarise the *Pall Mall* we should not know where to stop. We will therefore conclude with the following epitaph on the now exposed Deuteronomy fraud, from the Literary Gossip of the *Athenæum*:—"The Shapira fragments of Deuteronomy have been clearly proved by Dr. Ginsburg to be forgeries, but it will be some time before his fuller report, which will appear in the *Athenæum*, is ready. It will be a much more elaborate document than the popular report which was published in the daily papers, and will deal critically with the linguistic problem presented by this ingenious forgery. Dr. Ginsburg thinks an exhaustive investigation of the forgery of importance, as it may serve to prevent further attempts at imposture. Certainly one of the writers engaged in the fraud is an artist in his way, and counterfeits the Moabitic characters admirably. Such a man is not likely to leave his dangerous talents unemployed unless he be actually discovered, or scholars be so thoroughly put on their guard that any future forgeries of his may be at once detected.—The telegram addressed to the *Times* from Berlin will be read with considerable scepticism. It is very curious that, if the learned professors of Berlin detected the forgery in an hour and a half, they should have offered to buy the fragments; and that when they saw for several weeks together, in the German papers as well as the English, accounts of the sensation excited by the manuscripts, they did not send a word of warning to the authorities of the British Museum. It is not to be supposed that because Berlin was taken in by the Moabitic pottery, Dr. Lepsius would wish Bloomsbury to be deceived into buying a forged Deuteronomy. That Dr. Lepsius viewed the fragments with much suspicion we can well suppose, but that, with the limited opportunities he had of examining them, he came to a decided opinion about them

we are not inclined to believe.—Mr. Shapira still clings to the belief that his fragments are genuine, and he declares that if they are spurious he has been the victim of a trick played upon him by his old enemy M. Clermont Ganneau!

THE ENGLISH-MAIL PAPERS.

AFFAIRS in China are beginning to attract attention in earnest among London journalists, if the present number of the *Pall Mall Budget* is to be accepted as a criterion. First we have an article headed 'England, France, and China,' of a distinctively alarmist type. The writer, much impressed by the telegrams from Hongkong, considers that France is on the eve of a great war, having allowed itself to be involved in a hopeless *impasse* from which extrication seems impossible. The French cannot retire from Tonquin without vindicating their prestige, and can only annex at the price of a war with China. The writer thinks that, should a war come, whoever may win England must lose, and the battle between the two Powers would be fought out over the property of English merchants—over the corpses, it may even be, of English residents. The opinion of Colonel Gordon is quoted that, "humanly speaking, China going to war with France must entail our following suit." The conviction of the *Pall Mall* is that China will do her utmost to embroil us with France, and that all the Chinese have to do to create a very bad feeling between France and England is to push all their English employés in their navy, army, and arsenals, well to the front in the coming campaign. The second article is entitled 'Another Peril in China,' in which is embodied one of those malignant libels upon foreigners which are ever and anon distributed broadcast among the people in the interior. It is couched in the usual strain. "The Europeans do not belong to the human race; they are the descendants of geese and apes," etc. "Quite recently," says the compiler of the document, "on going to Court, I had the opportunity to talk to a great dignitary, who frankly avowed that they were only waiting for an opportunity to exterminate this pest." The *Pall Mall* remarks that the fiery exhortations of the above manifesto differ only in form from the passionate denunciations of the foreigner which have heralded in the past every attack upon Europeans. The third article is very long—extending over two whole pages—and very elaborate. It is headed 'The Impending War in the Far East,' and deals in detail with the French fleet in Chinese waters, Chinese defences, the Chinese fleet, difficulties of transport, French and English trade with China, the effect of war on English trade, and English residents in China, concluding with a table of the British Squadron and a map of the Chinese coast from Newchwang to Hué. All this interest in our fortunes here will no doubt be found to have received a fresh impetus when the papers reach us commenting upon the outrage in Canton. The Noah's Ark hoax seems not yet to have died out. Fresh authentic information is still forthcoming. A Turkish Commission is said to have been sent to examine it, and the President's report is most entertaining. The *Pall Mall* adds:—

So excellent a canard could not be left unutilized by the ingenious American advertiser, and we are not surprised to learn, on the same veracious authority, that the documents found in the ark having given rise to the idea that it was insured in the Atlantic Mutual Insurance Company, a reporter has been sent to 51, Broadway, to question Mr. Dennis, the vice-president of the company, concerning this matter. Mr. Dennis, after searching the archives of the company, found in those of the year 2,300 B.C. the following note:—"An ark constructed by Noah, the property of Noah & Sons, Tonnage, 42,413,950; length, 525 feet;

width, 87 feet 6 inches, depth of the hold 62 feet 6 inches. Gopher wood. Destination: transport of passengers and animals. Classed A1." Mr. Dennis, concludes the narrator, has been unable to reveal the professional secret of the cost of the insurance, whether the life of Noah was insured, and whether the menagerie was the subject of a separate policy.

Most of the papers have a good deal to say about Pope Leo XIII's "appeal to history." The *Pall Mall* says that the Pope's project of opening the Vatican Library to historical students is admirable. His Holiness's aim is to controvert what he considers the perversions of historic truth with which Italian school-books teem. "He has appealed to history, and to history he must go." But, as the writer points out,—

One can scarcely suppose that any research will show that Alexander VI. was other than a profligate, or Julius II. than an ambitious politician who was not very scrupulous about his methods, or Leo X. than a highly cultivated man for whom the Pagan side of the Renaissance had much greater interest than the doctrines of the Church. The less prominent Popes will probably gain something, and the opponents of the Roman Church may possibly lose something by the proposed investigations—supposing them to be honest. Dante lived in the reigns of fourteen Popes. Of these he praises two, blames five, and says nothing about seven. It will be interesting to see whether the Vatican Library will induce or oblige his commentators to review his attitude towards the Papacy. The subject is so vast that it would only be within a limited area such as this that the real gain could be appreciated.

And further,—

Leo XIII. roundly asserts that history demonstrates the divine intention to found at Rome the throne of the successors of St. Peter, from whence they are to govern as a centre independent of all other Powers the universal Republic of Christendom. In other words, the rummaging among the manuscripts of the Vatican is in some extraordinary fashion to demonstrate to an unbelieving world the divine origin of the Papacy, the divine authority for the temporal power, and the divine right of the Papal claim to the sovereignty of the universal Church. But these questions cannot be decided or even influenced by the study of manuscripts in the Vatican. All the materials, ex-geological and patristic, for answering them are before the world, and people have made up their minds about them one way or the other. So, again, the forgery of the Isidorian Decretals, which did so much to augment the power of the Popes, is a matter as to which no discoveries in the Vatican can be expected to produce a change of opinion. That remarkable fraud, after having been relied upon for centuries to support the claims of the Papal Church, was definitely dismissed to the limbo of demonstrated forgeries by the painstaking criticism of the Magdeburg Centurionists, to whom in an ostentatious appeal to the truth of history the Pope would have done well to have referred with more respect. But even if the contemplated researches in the archives of the Vatican could prove all that the Pope claims for his office in the past, it by no means follows that any demonstration of the utility of the Papacy in the infancy of European civilisation justifies its pretensions to-day either to rule in Rome or to exercise a dictatorship over the universal Church.

The *Spectator* writes soberly and well upon the subject, and thinks that when the Pope himself invites historians to ransack the Vatican archives, in the conviction that the Papacy can only be the better for any light that may be thrown upon its relations with Italy and the world, Italian politicians of the graver sort must naturally welcome the indication thus afforded of the Pope's readiness to substitute argument for assertion, and of his willingness to enter upon a discussion which, if it fails to upset the convictions entertained on either side, may at least suggest a *modus vivendi* between them. The *Saturday's* article on this most interesting subject concludes as follows:—

The Pope has himself proclaimed—and we cannot doubt his sincerity—as “a primary law” to be followed in these researches, that nothing should be withheld or concealed. He believes that his Church has everything to gain and nothing to lose by such a method of investigation, and those who are least prepared to accept his conclusions can ask nothing better than that it should be fairly applied. The *Popolo Romano*, which gave a friendly welcome to the Pope's letter, “believes that the Temporal Power has had its day, and that history, invoked by Pope Leo XIII., will confirm this opinion.” Such is at least the general opinion at present both in Italy and beyond it. As to the spiritual claims of the Papacy there is of course much greater diversity of view, but here also every honest inquirer, whether within or without the Roman fold, must desire that the verdict of history should be accurately gaged. Nor can any consistent believer in historical Christianity profess to feel anxiety about the result.

The *Saturday* manages to be amusing in dealing with ‘French Colonial Difficulties.’ The uncertainty of Chinese policy in the Annam business seems to perplex the reviewer very much. “No European can know whether the cliques of mandarins who govern the Empire in the name of an uncertain number of old women and children are sufficiently afraid of the neighbourhood of a Western Power to make war at once as a measure of precaution.” The reviewer's ideas of the Chinese Imperial family are to say the least a trifle foggy. The *Athenæum* gives a facsimile of one of the slips of the forged Moabite Deuteronomy, accompanied by some learned notes from Dr. Ginsburg. The *Saturday's* article on this most ingenious forgery is well worth reading. The writer points out that the detection of the fraud indicates the existence of a very unusual character, and one which should be easy to identify—namely, a dishonest rogue of great learning and cultivation. The following items are from the Literary Gossip of the *Athenæum*:—Mr. Egmont Hake has been for some time engaged on a life of Major-General C. G. Gordon. The work is to be called ‘The Story of Chinese Gordon,’ and will deal with the incidents of General Gordon's career from the early days when he was a subaltern in the Crimea up to the present date. At this moment, when there is a prospect of China going to war with a great European Power, the book will, it is likely, attract unusual attention. Messrs. Remington are the publishers, and the work will be out this autumn.—Under the title of ‘Old-World Idylls, and other Verses,’ Mr. Austin Dobson will shortly issue a selection from his ‘Vignettes in Rhyme’ and ‘Proverbs in Porcelain,’ both of which have been some time out of print. The selection will be based upon one which appeared at New York in 1880, and will be published here by Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.—The British Museum is republishing the text of the Shapira Deuteronomy, and the translation which appeared in the *Athenæum*, along with Dr. Ginsburg's report.—A book which is viewed with some curiosity in the United States just now is entitled ‘Twelve Months in an English Prison.’ It records the experiences of Mrs. Susan Fletcher, a lady medium who some time ago earned notoriety in this country by spiritually conveying the jewels of a devout believer in her manifestations.—Messrs. Putnam's Sons, of New York, have published ‘The Sacred Scriptures of the World,’ in which the author omits what he calls ‘objectionable’ and ‘unnecessary’ parts of the Bible, retaining such as are worthy of use for devotional and practical purpose. His alterations are bold enough. Thus, instead of “A man is not justified by the works of the law,” he puts, “A man is not justified by formalistic piety.” “Without shedding of blood there is no remission” gives place to “Without the life completely consecrated there is no remission.” The expurgated Bible is said to be “designed for common use in the pulpits and Sunday

schools and homes,” but it is not likely to be accepted. The author is the Rev. M. K. Schermerhorn, M.A.

Outports.

NANKING.

(FROM A CHINESE CORRESPONDENT.)

It is now verified that P'eng Yü-lin is to start on a reconnoitering expedition southward. A Decree is said to have been issued to the following effect:—“The struggle in Annam is of grave and dangerous character. The border defence is far from being effective. Let P'eng Yü-lin take 2,500 men and start for Canton, and in conjunction with Viceroy Chang prepare the necessary coast defence. Li Hung-chang is to take charge of the affairs of the Northern Ocean, and Viceroy Tso, with General Li, those of the Southern Seas. Wu Tao-tsen will march from Kirin with the trained infantry 3,000 in number to the Capital (Peking).” These reports are circulated among official circles and are quite reliable.

Viceroy Tso has appointed the *wei-yuen* Yao to accompany Mr. V. Muller and a student interpreter named Kong to survey the banks of the Yang-tze for erecting telegraph communication. The survey will probably occupy months. The work of construction cannot take place till next spring. The party started on the 10th inst.

NEWCHWANG.

(FROM A CORRESPONDENT.)

The troubles that have beset an Executor at this port are such that I question whether any one in future will dare to brave the penalties which Mr. Allen has inflicted in the case of Wade's Estate. There cannot be a doubt that in the first instance, when the notification of 1st September prohibiting any one but H.M.'s Consul from interfering with the Estate was issued, an error was committed, and we have the opinion of the Chief Justice, as reported, that such notification was wrong. May it not be asked why, without going further into the matter, such notification is not at once recalled? Until that be done, how can the Executor be expected to do his duty? Is the Supreme Court aware of the error? Then let it be corrected. Surely a British Court will not allow a palpable error to continue, to the prejudice of British Interests. So long as it remains, it is a stain on Justice. True, the Judge here may have acted from ignorance. He is reported to have said, “I am no Lawyer.” If a Judge is not a lawyer what is he then?

As may be gathered thus far, it appears that the Consul, not being allowed to demand the papers and property of the deceased, goes on another tack, and summonses the Executor in Her Majesty's name to reply to such inquiries as the Court sees fit to put regarding the affairs of the deceased. Now is that not an unfair way of obtaining the information which was attempted to be got by the notification? Surely the Law does not give H.M. Consul such a power? Anyhow, legally or not, the power was put in force on 24th September, and the Executor, who must have been in a dire dilemma, was ordered to be sworn for the purpose of being questioned, and because he preferred the alternative, actually allowed by the summons (which by the bye did not expire till the following day) he was fined \$25. The Estate is very poor, and cannot afford the costs for summonses, fines, hearings, etc. Mind you, the only question before the Court was a motion for time. The summons itself did not expire, according to the Judge's calculation, till the following day. The Court therefore had no legal right to put the summons in force on the 24th, and if that be so, the fine was prematurely inflicted—for possibly the Executor, rather than be further badgered, would on the following

day when the summons expired, have submitted himself to the exigencies of the Court. Allowing however that the Court had a right to put a British subject on his oath, at a time when he was there on some other business intent, surely the Dependent should be informed what he is expected to bear witness to. Freemasons are not allowed to know beforehand what they have to go through, but a British Court of Justice is a different institution. The duties of Consuls are distinctly laid down, the principal one being “protection of British subjects and interests”. So far however as experience goes of the last few years at the port of Newchwang, whether in shipping or other matters, the records will prove that the less one has to do with the Consulate the better it is for one's peace of mind, or pocket. A few facts are at the disposal of any one who wishes to know, but meanwhile we think matters have come to such a pass that a fair and impartial inquiry should be instituted with the view of preventing very serious results.

A PERPLEXED CORRESPONDENT.

3rd October.

PROCEEDINGS IN H.B.M.'s COURT AT NEWCHWANG.

24th September, 1883.

Before HERBERT J. ALLEN, Esq., Judge.
In re Probate of Will of J. H. WADE, deceased.

In accordance with summons (as per copy) Mr. H. E. Bush, the Executor, appeared in Court, and asked for an extension of the time. The Judge calculated that the 14 days only expired to-morrow, but applicant said he wished to make sure. The Judge asked on what grounds further time should be allowed, and was informed that applicant had written to the Supreme Court and expected a reply daily; the Chief Judge had said, when here, that probate would be granted at once (probate had been applied for and the Executor's oath signed in Court), and the Court has said, “the Will was in order.”

The Judge—I may have said so—you can make that statement, if you like.

Executor—Well then, it seems to me, the Will being proved, and the Executor's oath signed, according to the rule of the Supreme Court, and as the Chief Judge had led the Executor to understand, nothing more would be demanded.

The Judge—I don't wish to argue about Rules, and it does not matter what the Chief Judge said. I decline to give further time. If you don't answer the questions the Court chooses to put to you, there will be no probate, and if you don't renounce probate, the thing will lapse.

Executor—Is the summons according to Rule 186?

The Judge—Yes, it is.

Executor—Well, that rule does not apply to anything but proving the Will, which has been done; it does not give power to ask for information as to the affairs of deceased. I am asked to divulge the affairs of the deceased, and do not feel justified in doing so.

The Judge—Well then, you must renounce and sign the Renunciation-form No. 22.

Executor—How can the Court ask me to do that, when I have already sworn to administer as per form No. 10? However, as I have so much trouble from the Court and have been threatened with punishment for contempt of Court, and cannot put up any more with the inconvenience I have suffered and still may have to undergo, I would rather renounce probate.

The Judge—Will you answer the questions of the Court?

Executor—I don't know what they are, and therefore cannot say; if it be anything that I know by virtue of my executorship, I don't think the Court should ask me.

The Judge—I'll tell you, if you'll be sworn; (taking the Bible) will you be sworn?

Executor—When I am sworn, I must say what I know, and therefore as the summons gives me an alternative, I prefer to accept it and renounce probate. (Reads the Summons to the Court.)

The Judge—I don't care what that summons says; will you be sworn?

Executor—If I decline to be sworn as Executor, what will be the punishment?

The Judge—I shall tell you that afterwards. Do you refuse?

Executor—There is no cause before the Court, and I am not a witness. Can you swear anyone you like?

The Judge—Yes, I can send for anybody to appear and answer what questions I like on oath.

Executor—Well, I prefer to renounce probate.

The Judge (excitedly)—Will you be sworn? Do you refuse to be sworn?

Executor—I repeat, that I renounce probate; as I have the alternative by the summons to renounce probate, I now formally do so. The motion for time being refused, I shall retire, and the constable can come and take the property.

As he was leaving the office, the Judge called out in a violent passion, Stop, Sir,—Stop, I say, I have not done with you yet. I fine you \$25; failing that, imprisonment for seven days for contempt of Court!—Farmer (the constable) go and collect the money.

Copy.

In H.B.M.'s Court at Newchwang.
Tuesday, the 11th day of September, 1883.
In the matter of the property of J. H. Wade, late of Newchwang deceased. To Henry Edward Bush, Executor of the above named J. H. Wade.

Whereas J. H. Wade, late of Newchwang deceased died on the 1st day of September, 1883 and had at the time of his death his fixed place of abode at Newchwang within the jurisdiction of this Court, and whereas you, as executor named in the will, have made application for probate of said will to be granted, but have failed to answer, to the satisfaction of the Court such inquiries as the Court has seen fit to put in the premises. Now this is to command you, in Her Majesty's name, that within fourteen days after service hereof on you, inclusive of the day of such service, you do attend in this Court and reply to such inquiries as the Court sees fit to put regarding the affairs of the deceased, to the satisfaction of the Court, and to enable it to grant probate of said will; or that you expressly renounce all right to probate of the said will, and to administration of the property of the deceased.

Fee, \$1.

Service, \$1.

Total, \$2.

[SEAL.]

CANTON.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Our position here has undoubtedly been rendered more precarious by the result of Logan's trial, the Chinese of all classes being greatly excited, and the Viceroy himself having declined the responsibility of protecting foreigners outside Shamien. I see that some of the Hongkong papers are howling about the verdict; but surely without having been present at the deliberations of the jury it ought to be enough for Englishmen that in England no jury would have convicted of murder on the evidence. Our little Settlement is surrounded by soldiers—coolies, rather—and we have now six gunboats here, so I imagine that as long as the Viceroy can maintain his authority there is little to fear. We are however ourselves patrolling all night for fear of a surprise; but in the case of a night attack in force—which is not considered probable, the city-gates being all closed quite early—there would certainly be great confusion, as we seem to have

made very little progress in organisation since the burning of Shamien, and the night-signal (a foghorn) is indistinguishably imitated by a donkey in the centre avenue.

1st October.

The trial of Logan was concluded to-day, and the verdict of the jury has been what most people appeared to anticipate. The Chinese in the vicinity of the court looked somewhat pleased when they found that the prisoner had been found guilty of manslaughter, and their interest before it was given was evidently most intense. When the sentence was passed, however, dissatisfaction was pretty plainly depicted on the faces of most of them, and the news spread over the city and among the boating population with wonderful rapidity. Of all the persons in the court Logan appeared to evince the least curiosity when the jury returned from considering the case, and when their verdict was given he heard it with the same calmness, which was also unaltered as the sentence was passed upon him. He is evidently a man of iron nerve; and as it appears he has for so long conducted himself with credit, both in the Hongkong Police force and in the Customs service, it is much to be regretted that his career in China should have ended so disastrously. Logan will probably be brought to Hongkong to serve out his sentence, as the long sentence prisoners from the coast ports usually do. There is no accommodation in Canton, as the Consular Prison there is simply one large apartment on the ground floor of one of the Consulate buildings. Most effective means were taken to isolate the jury from the outer world, for they were prisoners during the whole trial, being escorted to and from the court and their quarters in one of the consular buildings, and they did not leave the premises of the Consulate during the entire trial. With regard to the means taken to prevent communication between the Chinese witnesses and the court, the arrangements were hardly so satisfactory. The witnesses were kept in another of the Consular buildings under the charge of a Chinese attendant of the Consulate, who contented himself with taking a seat outside the door in front, but as there were many other means of conveying messages and intelligence of the course being taken in the Court this was very imperfect. A Chinaman was in court the whole time taking notes of the Chinese evidence, which notes he passed out of one of the windows of the court, and with regard to where these papers went to, there were rumours afloat of an unsatisfactory character. It was also most undesirable that a crowd of the hangers-on of the Tao-tai should be hanging round the door of the Court, constantly leaving and returning. Mr. Ball, while interpreting to one witness, heard a hiss from one of these doors, but as his back was to the door, he did not see the author though there were some in the court who said they saw it done by an individual who has taken an active part in getting up the case.

Johnson was set at liberty by his Consul, Mr. Popoff, this morning. He is of course now out of the Customs Service, and as his part in the disturbance seems to have been in no way culpable, a good deal of sympathy is felt for him.—*Daily Press.*

29th September.

A notification has been jointly issued by the Prefect and the Magistrates, relative to the trial and conviction of Logan, for the purpose of calming the populace. They state that Logan was convicted of manslaughter according to British law, but nevertheless the Viceroy has communicated with the British Consul asking him to detain the prisoner at Canton pending the consideration of an application by His Excellency for a new trial. The notice also sets forth that, in connection with the

Hankow case, the Viceroy has applied for the accused to be tried according to British law. The people are thereupon enjoined not to get angry or excited, but to attend to their trades and quietly leave the settlement of the matters at issue with foreigners to the authorities. The object of this notification is simply to pacify the populace.

On the 4th instant the Viceroy went to inspect all the forts down as far as the Bocca Tigris. Three gunboats and several war junks accompanied him. His Excellency expressed himself well satisfied both with the forts and the soldiers. An accident occurred when the war junks were at the Bocca forts, one of them colliding with a sampan, which was upset, and a child of three years of age drowned. The Viceroy heard of this mishap, and administered a severe reprimand to the commander of the junk for his carelessness. He also ordered the sum of 11s. 100 to be paid to the father of the little boy as compensation for his loss.

The lately enrolled soldiers who were stationed at the East Parade Ground have been moved to outside the North Gate, for fear of some disorder arising, the East Parade Ground being considered too near the populace, who in their present mood would not be slow to resent any offence committed by the troops.—*Daily Press.*

8th October.

FROM SHANSI TO YUNNAN.

(NOTES OF A JOURNEY THROUGH CHINA.)

January 6th (Continued).—Resuming our journey, we saw several flocks of muttons with shaggy wool, and many large oxen with ugly, crooked, turn-any-way horns; one especially appeared to be an ungainly creature; harnessed to what had formerly been a cart, of sound construction, though now held together with various lashings of straw ropes, it was being soundly persuaded to move on by a priestly lad, with a bare pate exposed to the weather, and his mother's, or some other creature's, rolling pin doing duty for a rib-tickler or whip-stock. His ancient progenitor, or some other being old enough to be his progenitor, was helping the ungainly beef to get along by pushing at the tail of the cart. We passed several small towns and villages, and at ten o'clock descended from the upper plateau over which we have lately been travelling, down a ravine to a valley, in which we crossed the Chien-yang river, having the Yü river close on our left. I am told that the rivers keep separate channels although they run parallel to each other in the same plain for some distance. During high water, however, the two rivers appear alike, and are really joined in one. The Chien-yang is now about twenty-five yards wide, with a depth of about two feet of clear water flowing swiftly south. Ice is also being carried down in large quantities, and the light narrow bridge over which we crossed runs some danger of being swept away. The Yü river is closely packed with masses of ice.

We halted for breakfast at a town called Ti-tien Chên, with a population of some fifty-five families, a small fort garrisoned by braves, and a poor inn for the accommodation of travelling officials. Food is, however, abundant and cheap.

We resumed our journey in a fine valley with the Yü river on our left and a range of mountains close on our right. We passed some rice fields, and various kinds of trees. The slopes of the mountains are terraced and caved, forming a sort of continuous string of cave-dwellings. We sighted a tower and pagoda, passed the grave of some important personage, with stone men and horses, rams, lions and posts; and we entered the suburb of Pao-ki Hsien, where a cattle fair was going on. Horses and oxen were plentiful and bamboo-ware with many other domestic articles. We

halted at the official quarters prepared for us. Everything was ready, and everybody in his proper place, and not a word of unpleasantness was heard; all was smooth and fair. The distance done to-day is about 70 li, but is called 80 by some and 90 by others.

This is said to be the birth-place of the Divine Agriculturist Shên-nung, who succeeded Fuh-hi the Great as Emperor of China some forty-six hundred years ago. He is known as Yen Ti in history, and worshipped by farmers generally, because he taught people how to make ploughs and cultivate the soil, and organised a sort of market-day in each town for the exchange of all domestic articles. That is all I can tell you about the ancient farmer just now. The great Immortal Chang Hsien-fung lived here at one time, and formed three rivers in the valley. The Magistrate of this city is named Wang. He is a native of Ngan-hwei, I am told, and a literary graduate of the *chin-shih* degree, or Doctor. He has so far treated us with due consideration, and makes me think that the concentrated essence of naughtiness is restrained within the limits of Fung-chiang Hsien. We have had enough of that in this province of Shen-si; though fortunately we got a taste of the sweetest honey occasionally to remove all traces of the bitterness. This is the last journey on which we are to have carts—indeed this is the end of all things in carting westward, and to-morrow our baggage is to be borne by men used to that sort of work. Food and labour are cheap here, and my artistic perraquier informs me that I may buy a handsome maid some 12 to 14 years old for fifteen strings of cash, and that a few years ago ten strings would have sufficed.

January 7th.—After waiting some time for a promised breakfast, I started without it, going up a fine street lined with the booths of traders attending the fair. We passed out at the south gate, when one of the coolies ran up to say my baggage was stopped. I told him that if the authorities insisted on stopping my baggage, they might do so, and bear the responsibility. I afterwards ascertained that my loyal Tâng had got into a difficulty with the yamenites about something. Crossing the three or four branches of the Yü river on treacle bridges and stepping stones, we ascended the south bank and halted at the ancient town of Kiang-chêng Pu, the birth-place of Kiang Shên-nung. The town is surrounded by a high mud-wall, in a ruinous state, and has some 600 to 700 families living in and around it. Here I waited for an hour to learn what was the matter, when, to my surprise, I was told that my loyal Tâng had not given the attendant yamenites any money, and deceived me about the breakfast. We started again after having ascertained that the yamenites had received their wine-money, and halted in the town of Yin-mên Chên, near by, for half-an-hour, having travelled fifteen li, on a passably level road. We then ascended the valley, which is getting much narrower, over a rocky road on the right of the small stream. I saw people carrying pheasants and other game; I saw also lots of ducks and teal flying over head. I believe I saw two great turkeys in a field yesterday. One of my bearers, named Yang, is a native of this valley, and we halted in the village of the Yang family, where he was welcomed. A first-cousin of his, on meeting him, appeared visibly moved, and they both shook hands by taking each the other's right hand in the foreign manner, to my great astonishment.

I noticed several men and women afflicted with goitre, in a grievous way. At Yang-kia Wan I saw, in a small temple, pictures of women, nearly nude, bathing or crossing a river. I have seen such in various parts of the Empire, so that I have come to the conclusion that the morals of the mountaineers are somewhat laxer than those of

the dwellers in the plain. The valley was now narrow, allowing just our road beside a small stream at the bottom; and mountains on either side were covered with snow, and brushwood. We reached the top of the mountain pass, called Ku-ta-san-kuan, where are two houses, and where I boiled water at 202° Fahrenheit. An hour later we reached a town of 55 families, called Kuan-yin Tang, where we halted for the night, having travelled 50 li or so to-day, on a rough road. My bedding has gone to the regular stage, 60 li further on, but the baggage is a long way behind, so we stay here to-day at my expense.

I find that all the coolies are down on my poor loyal Tâng, because he has been trying to fathom some of their exploits in coolieism. The poor fellow has served me faithfully for the last two years and more, and is doing his best in my interest, I know; but he has the misfortune of being a little stupid and plain-spoken, whilst the others are rather smarter, more slippery, and more inclined to go with a fair wind. The head coolie's game is to keep my men at strife with each other, whilst he is making money, and then he will laugh at them all and keep the money for himself; whereas if they agreed, they might combine to exact a certain amount of wine-money, from the superfluous amount collected. The weather fortunately is delightful, so that if the baggage does not arrive, we shall not be much inconvenienced by it, but we shall be at least three days doing two days' journey. Of course all that the authorities care about is to get me off their hands as soon as possible. Never mind how many days I take to make a day's journey, it costs them nothing; the coolies that are carrying my baggage are paid at so much a catty without stipulation as to time.

THE FRENCH IN TONQUIN.

Since my last letter the Yellow Flag corps has been disbanded, and the greater part of the men under Mr. George's command have returned to Haiphong.

The Saigon brought a reinforcement the other day of 500 men. About 3,000 more are expected to arrive on or about the 15th October.

The Black Flags have retired from Hanoi and are now again encamped in Sontay and to the north of that place.

In the last engagement Mr. Lay Wing-fook got wounded in the leg and his son was killed. Monsieur Harmand has, I am told, put a price of \$2,000 on the head of Mr. Lay Wing-fook, payable to any one who will secure him dead or alive.

The water in the river is still very high; not, however, too high, nor yet too low for navigation; and the weather is getting splendidly cool. The thermometer stands 19 degrees Réaumur to-day. I should imagine the poor soldiers must welcome the change with delight; they must have suffered very much from the heat.

This morning an expedition set out from here, for the purpose, I am told, of catching the pirates near the Elephant Mountain, which I have mentioned on a previous occasion. These pirates are said to number about 1,000 strong, and are pillaging the neighbouring villages. The expedition had to return, however, owing to the heavy rains setting in and making the roads impracticable.

An Annamite Ambassador has arrived from Hué, and will make a tour of inspection, with the Commissioner-General, of the regions so far brought into subjection.

To-morrow morning an expedition, consisting of 550 men and artillery, will leave here in the steamer *Ruri-maru* under the command of Colonels Bichot and Badens, who came down from Hanoi purposely to take command of this force. The *Ruri-maru* will be accompanied by the gunboat *Carabine* and some sloops, I believe. I hear—though this movement is kept a strict secret—that the destination of the

expedition is Bacninh, and that a similar force will leave Hanoi simultaneously, to capture the place.—*Daily Press* Haiphong, 28th September.

FOOCHOW.

News reached Foochow on the 2nd inst. of the commission of an outrage at a village called 都東 situate up-river about forty li from Foochow. The information given is rather brief, but it appears that some houses occupied by Christians have been destroyed, and a number of the latter (many of whom were invalids), have been severely beaten. Upon receipt of the news, the French Consul immediately sent assistance, and, if necessary, intends visiting the scene of riot personally.

In recognition of the valuable services rendered by Mon. E. Frandon our French Consul, in saving the destruction of the Foochow Roman Catholic Chapel, and quelling a riot which would otherwise have been attended with much bloodshed, a Chinese Deputation waited upon the former at his residence on Tuesday last, and presented him, in the name of the villagers of 下尾巷, with a most elaborate Mandarin umbrella. The following is a translation of the Chinese characters, (which are inscribed in gold) and for which we are indebted to the interpreter of the French Consulate.

"Les Chrétiens allaient être dans le feu et l'eau (en grand danger) M. Frandon qui aime le peuple, n'a pas hésité. Sans être arrêté par le danger de tomber dans une foule en fureur, il s'est rendu à Ovitian, Bienveillant comme un bon père et une douce mère il a sans crainte marché vite comme le tonnerre pour nous sauver. Nous sommes impuissants à lui exprimer la dix millième partie de notre reconnaissance, nous nous bornons à mettre nos noms sur un parasol d'honneur que nous lui offrons avec respect. Dans sa modestie il prétend qu'il n'a fait aussi rapidement et avec autant d'impunité."

We need only add that a higher mark of esteem could not have been paid, and such presentations are never made to foreigners except where valiant conduct has been displayed.

We have received fuller particulars of the outrage which occurred at 下尾巷, (Toong Tung) last week, and are pleased to find that the *mêlée* was not attended with any loss of life. It appears that the village in question, is not possessed of a place of worship, and therefore the Rev. Paulino Basso, the Catholic priest, celebrated divine service in a private house belonging to one of the Christians. The service was allowed to be conducted in peace, but on the following day, a mob of infidels broke into the premises where the celebration had taken place—destroyed the altar, demolished the whole of the furniture,—and, after unroofing the house, intimated their intention of completely destroying the latter, in the event of any Priest visiting it hereafter. A Chinese official was despatched from the French Consulate, to the village, and the threat of demanding the Taotai to inflict severe punishment upon the offenders, had the effect of the head officers of the village promising to pay the amount of damage occasioned, and also giving a guarantee, that in future, Christian Priests shall be allowed to visit this village, and conduct religious services, without either being molested or any similar after-occurrence being allowed to take place.

Although the rice crops in Foochow and its environs, appear in a flourishing condition, the prevailing impression amongst the natives is that the harvest will be of a scanty nature. At the precise season for transplanting the young roots, when the paddy fields are usually swamped; this

year was peculiarly dry; thus not affording the desired nourishment at the proper period to produce sufficiently strong plants to develop a full ear.—*Foochow Herald* 11th October.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

August 26th.—(1) A Decree granting half a month's extra pay and rations to the troops and their officers in Peking, with the Imperial clansmen, Gioro, and widows and orphans belonging to the Imperial clan who are in receipt of Government support. This compassionate grant is made in consideration of the distress caused by the high rate of prices prevailing in Peking which result from the excessive rains. The same Decree orders that the congee kitchens in the Metropolis shall be open two months before the usual time.

(2) A Decree expressing the Imperial anxiety for the safety of the autumn harvest in consequence of the heavy rains that have recently fallen and still threaten to fall. His Majesty intends to visit the Ta Kao Tien in person on the 28th inst. to pray for fine weather. Simultaneous services are to be conducted at different state temples by princes and high officers whose names are given.

(3) A Decree in answer to a representation by the Censor Liu En-po, who expresses doubt as to the universal probity of the Censors as a class, and suggests the likelihood of some amongst them preparing denunciatory memorials, the drafts of which they show to the person attacked, and threaten to send in unless money is paid. The Decree, which enunciates in decisive terms the importance of the maintenance by Censors of the strictest self-control and probity of conduct, authorises any person to whom a Censor takes a draft Memorial with a view to extorting money, to hand him then and there, with his Memorial, to the nearest territorial official, when the full penalty the law allows will be inflicted up him.

(4) A Decree in answer to the same Censor, who states that Mauchiu women are in the habit of keeping opium dens and opening establishments for gaming and other immoral purposes, a practice which prevails at Shanghai, Soochow, Hangchow, and other places, where kidnapped women are also sold. He prays that the question of making this offence punishable by a term of imprisonment may be taken into consideration. The Board of Punishments are directed to draw up Regulations on the subject, and to submit them to the Throne for approval.

(5) A Decree revoking the permission earlier given for the despatch of Hung Ju-k'uei, a cashiered Grain Commissioner, to Canton for service under Chang Shu-shêng. The permission is cancelled at the instance of two Memorialists, who point out that a request for the re-employment of a disgraced official cannot be submitted by any servant of the State. They further allege that upon the release of the ex-official in question he went to Tientsin and behaved in a most argumentative manner. (See *Gazette* of 8th August).

(6) O-lo-ho-pu and Chang P'ei-lun are directed to proceed by government post to Shênai, to conduct an enquiry in that province. Their staff is also to have the privilege of travelling by government post.

(7) A Memorial from the Governor-General of Miu Ché and the Governor of Ché-kiang reporting the submission of one Huang Chin-man, a rebel of many years standing in the prefecture of T'ai-chou, and his gang of a hundred men, which was accepted by an Imperial Decree published in the *Gazette* of the 16th inst. Two months ago the attention of the Memorialists was directed to this matter by a Decree issued on

information submitted by an individual whose name was withheld, and a report was called for, which was duly sent in. They have now further to report that the prefect of T'ai-chou states that a certain literary graduate in command of the central battalion of the Ché-kiang forces, on the expression of a wish by the said Chin-man and his gang of a hundred men to tender their submission and amend their ways, which wish had been endorsed by the people at large, had enrolled them as a company in his battalion, with the said Chin-man as Lieutenant in command. They expressed their gratitude, the prefect said, with tears of joy, and protestations of their desire to show their appreciation of the clemency that had been extended to them. The Memorialist Ping-chang, Governor of the province, accordingly gave orders that they should be formally enrolled, which has now been done, and the company has already testified its zeal and sincerity by the arrest of an important criminal. It now remains for the Memorialists, in view of the popularity of this arrangement, and in pursuance of the general principle that the tranquillity of any given region should be a first essential of government, humbly to pray His Majesty to take into consideration the genuine repentance of this hardened offender, and, guided by those benevolent instincts which have always made the Throne reluctant to take away life, to exercise a clemency which is beyond and above the law, and allow these individuals to expiate their offences by service to the State. They may add that the men are sturdy and active, and will be required to assist in the suppression of brigandage. Also that P'êng Yü-lin urges strongly the propriety of not breaking faith with them now that their submission has been accepted. (See *Gazette* of 16th August).

August 27th.—(1) Jui Lien (瑞聯) is appointed Superintendent of Customs and octroi for the city of Peking, and K'o-mêng-o (克蒙額) his Deputy.

August 28th.—(1) A Memorial from Pi Tao-yüan and Chou Chia-mei, Governor and Governor-Adjunct respectively of the Metropolitan Prefecture, giving a general summary of the reports that have reached them from various Departments and Districts in their jurisdiction of the extent of the damage done by the recent heavy rains. After expressing their reverential admiration of the benevolent impulse that prompted His Majesty to order the whole of the tribute rice forwarded by Grand Canal that remained from appropriation allotted to Shantung to be devoted to the relief of the sufferers in Chihli, the Memorialists refer to a general report on the subject that has already been submitted themselves and the Governor-General Li Hung-chang conjointly. Further reports that have come to hand show that the Shun-t'ien Prefecture has suffered the most. Thirteen Departments and Districts report the postal roads to be under water. During the heavy rains last month the river at T'ung-chou suddenly rose more than ten feet, and overflowed the embankments, as did also the Peking canal. At San-ho, the mountain torrents came down with such violence as to turn the whole district into a vast lake. The same occurred at Chi-chou, where several villages were submerged. The river at Hsiang-ho Hsien, known as the Yü-ho, broke its bounds and joined the overflow of the river Wu, which, being too much for the town moat to hold, flooded the country to a varying width of from two to eight li, forming a huge lake which extended as far as the eye could reach. The same thing occurred at Wu-ch'ing Hsien, where some hundred feet or so of the wall were washed away, and the whole district was converted into a sea of water, terrible stories of suffering and distress coming in from village after village. At Pao-ti Hsien, the numerous rivers which converge at that point all rose above their

embankments, and carried them away in spite of strenuous efforts to stop the gaps, the overflow laying numerous villages under water. So also at the Yung ch'ing, Tung-an, and Mi-yün districts, with the departments of Cho-chou, Ch'ang-ping and others, the waters have overflowed the country and ruined the crops. Enquiries made by agents of the Memorialists reveal sad cases of distress; ruin, not only of crops, which are hopelessly destroyed, but the wholesale collapse of numbers of buildings with injury and loss of life to the occupants. Stories are told of whole families of scores of people lashing themselves one to another with rope, to avoid being separated, and all being drowned together. Earnest and piteous appeals for aid pour in on every side; some ask for food, others for shelter, others for aid to bury their dead, while others are waiting for the waters to subside to ford the flood and get away, and are asking for means to do so. Others, again, claim assistance to repair the embankments and drain off the water from their fields in the hopes of saving a fragment of their crops. In short, so disastrous a state of things has not been experienced for the past fifty years. The story of misery is confirmed by the Taotai of the T'ung, Yung circuit, Hsüeh Fuch'én, who having recently had occasion to visit Tientsin on public business, returned to T'ung-chou by boat. He started on the 6th of August, and reports that the water was then so high that it was impossible to tell whether the boat was in the channel or not. Hundreds and thousands of flooded-out villagers congregated at Yang-ta'ün, Ho-hsi-wu and other places on the river, besieging the Taotai's boat, which was stopped more than twenty times, and appealing for aid. The river, they said, had suddenly risen sixteen feet and flooded all their land. The country along the line of route was, said the Taotai, a vast sea, and flooded buildings were to be seen wherever the eye might roam. The pitiful sights he witnessed and the stories of woe he heard were more than he could bear, and he sent in an application for permission to distribute a certain amount of government grain in relief. The Memorialists are impressed with a sense of the necessity of taking prompt measures of relief, for unless some means can be found of providing for the wants of the sufferers on the spot, the capital runs a risk of another invasion of starving refugees similar to that which took place seven years ago, when refugees will again have to be established and the people given money to return. Subscriptions were then raised to the extent of Ts. 65,000, and sent by the Governor-General of Chihli to the Memorialist's Yamén. A certain balance of this and other charitable funds remains in hand, which the Memorialists have now sent for distribution in the afflicted districts by the hand of competent agents. These funds will be supplemented by local grants and returns furnished in due course.

August 29th.—(1) A Memorial from the Comptroller of the Imperial Household, the Presidents of the Board of Punishments, and other Courts forming a judicial tribunal to pass sentence upon a eunuch who has been guilty stealing some shirts belonging to His Majesty. On the 12th of last month the Memorialists were honoured with His Majesty's commands to pass sentence upon this individual, who had already confessed his crime; they were further instructed to refrain from pursuing their investigations beyond the individual himself. In obedience to these commands, on the eunuch being forwarded to the Board of Punishments, his deposition was taken, and he was finally brought before the Memorialists to have his statements verified. They find, upon his own evidence, that his name is Wang Lai-ho, and that he is a native of Pao-ti Hsien in the Shun-t'ien prefecture. He came to Peking five

years ago, and his body having been "made clean" at the *Hui-chi-ssü*, a department of the office of the Imperial Household primarily engaged in the collection of rents for Banner property, he was sent to do duty in the principal building of the Palace of "Perpetual Spring." In the 7th moon of last year, while engaged in sweeping the room, the eunuch noticed eight embroidered silk shirts in use by His Majesty placed upon a couch, and the sight of them put the notion of stealing them into his head. He got them out of the Palace, and took them to a street off the great clothes market outside the Ch'ien Mén, and there disposed of them to a dealer in second-hand clothes, who kept a stall, for Tls. 65, which money he has since spent. The head eunuch, having discovered the theft, sent him for examination to the Criminal Investigation Department of the Office of the Imperial Household, when he confessed his guilt, and was, as above chronicled, handed over to the Memorialists for sentence to be passed upon him. They find that the law on this point is as follows: "Any person who shall steal carriage-trappings or other articles from the Inner Precincts shall have sentence of summary decapitation passed upon him." The eunuch Wang Lai-ho, who has shown such defiance of the law as to venture to steal garments in use by His Majesty, should naturally be punished in accordance with this law. It is, therefore, the duty of the Memorialists to decide that he shall be summarily decapitated. As instructed, they have refrained from pursuing the enquiry into the individuality of the receiver of the stolen property, as the eunuch declares he cannot remember the style of his shop. (For Decree commuting the sentence to imprisonment for life see *Gazette* of 18th Aug.)

August 30th.—(1) A Decree issued at the instance of the Prince of Li directing the Board of Punishments to investigate a case of disputed succession to titles and property between two brothers called T'ing Hsien and T'ing Chün respectively.

(2) A Memorial from the Custodians of the Eastern Mausolea giving details of the damage done to roofs, bridges, tablets etc., during the recent heavy rains, the like of which, they mention incidentally, have not been seen for more than forty years. The remainder of this day's issue is occupied with notices of transfer and vacancies in the provinces, and suggestions for filling the posts thus vacated.

August 31st.—(1) A Decree acknowledging a Memorial from a Censor, who complains of the abuses that continue to be allowed in the conduct of Government examinations, and quotes an instance of an individual who recently passed for a teacher in a School for Imperial Clausmen having his papers done for him by someone else. These two individuals, whose names the Censor gives, are to be summoned by the proper Board and called upon each to make a fresh copy of the examination paper, the hand-writing of which will then be compared with the original paper sent in.

(2) The Imperial Agent at Urga, in a Memorial reporting that he has granted sick leave to one of the chieftains of the Dzassakt'u tribe of the Khalkha nation, mentions that there is a standing order to the effect that when a Mongol official of any rank applies for sick leave, the high officer empowered to grant him such leave shall send an officer to test the veracity of the applicant's description of his symptoms before doing so.

(3) Postscript Memorial from Chin Shun, Governor of Ili. The Memorialist last year, in reporting the progress of his survey of the Ili frontier, stated that the hill known as the Ko-t'ang Shan had been placed within Chinese limits, and that on the summit of this hill there was a tablet engraved with an autographic inscription by the Emperor Kao Tsung Shun

recording the pacification of this region the 20th year of the reign K'ien Lung. The Memorialist described the ruined condition of the pavilion erected over this tablet, which had fallen down after the rebellion and was in urgent need of repair, and recorded his intention of rebuilding the pavilion at the breaking up of the frost this year. In accordance with the proposal then announced, the Memorialist deputed the commandant of the Oelöt division of military colonists of the Ili region to take workmen to the spot and reverently and carefully to repair the edifice, which duty he completed on the 16th of the 5th moon. The cost of the undertaking was somewhat enhanced by the fact that Ko-t'ang Shan, which is more than 300 li distant from the town of Sui-ting, is unapproachable by carts, and the building materials, with food for the workmen, had to be carried to the summit of the hill from Sui-ting by porters.—Rescript: It is noted.

September 1st.—(1) The Governor of Ch'kiang reports the existence of a reformatory started on a semi-official basis at Hangchow, which has worked so well during the few years of its existence that he ventures to bring the establishment to the notice of His Majesty with a view to its being placed on record and officially recognised. The capital city of Ch'kiang is, he premises, a centre at which people from all parts congregate, and since the rebellion it has been the home of numbers of houseless and friendless destitutes who live by crime, cheating by day and robbing by night, to the great embarrassment of the honest and law-abiding inhabitants who have all been the victims of their thefts and extortions. When arrested and punished for any offence, their release in the signal for an immediate relapse into crime, the simple reason being that they have no relations to admonish them, and no other means of living but by extortion, so that abstinence from their criminal pursuits entails immediate starvation. While admitting the detestable nature of these people as a class, their destitute condition, which forces them into crime, is, nevertheless, pitiable, and some four years ago, in the hope of doing something for them, the gentry of the city asked the sanction of the Governor to the establishment of a reformatory to be conducted under a code of rules which they drew up and submitted for his approval. The Governor's consent having been obtained, the reformatory was started under the name of the Ch'ien Shan Kung So (遷善公所), and maintained

out of funds raised by another charitable institution known as the T'ung Shan T'ang, an official, who resided on the premises, being placed in charge. All persons found guilty of petty larceny or minor crimes are sent to this establishment, where they are given certain amounts of food and clothing, and compelled to abandon their evil habits within a given limit of time. The inmates are all obliged to learn some handicraft at places in the neighbourhood of the reformatory, the industrious being encouraged and the idle punished as an incentive to reformation. When sick, they are provided with medical attendance and medicine, and twice a month the *wei-yüan* in charge calls each one up by name and emphatically admonishes him, while the heads of *arrondissements* are invited to read and expound to them the amplified edition of the Sacred Edict, with passages bearing upon laws and punishments. Genuine penitents are, as they are discovered, sent away to earn their living by the trade they have learnt, or else they are handed over to any relatives from their native place who may be willing to take charge of them. None are allowed to go again on the streets of the city, or resume their previous habits. The result has been a marked improvement in the quietness and order of the streets, to the immense advantage of the locality generally.

September 2nd.—(1) A Decree announcing the penalties awarded to the boatmen convicted of stealing government rice consigned to their charge *in transitu* between Tientsin and Peking. The individual who abandoned his boat and decamped, after disposing of sixty piculs and upwards of rice, is sentenced to strangulation after the usual term of imprisonment, with the customary mitigation of the penalty in proportion to the amount of rice restored within a given limit of time. The nine other individuals convicted of thefts amounting to thirty or forty piculs each are to be given a limit of time within which to make good their theft, and this is to be extended at its expiration if the restitution is not effected. At the close of this second period, those who would then be banished will be imprisoned and the amounts stolen recovered by forcible means, after which the penalties to which they are subject will be carried out in a mitigated degree. In future, cases of the robbery of the whole cargo, or of resistance of thieves to capture, will be reported to the Throne with a request for the execution of the offenders.

(2) A Decree directing the Governor-General Li Hung-chang to send a competent and responsible officer to Jeh-ho to ascertain, in concert with the Governor, the extent of the damage done by the recent heavy rains to the Walls of the Imperial Hunting Reserves and buildings therein, and to submit estimates of the probable cost of repairs.

(3) A long report from the Governor of Shensi of the result of his enquiries into the circumstances under which a sub-prefect, now deceased, took the daughter of a common person in his jurisdiction to wife, with formal reports from different provinces, occupies the remainder of this day's issue.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiange Road, Shanghai, on Monday, the 8th October, 1883, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. A. Myburgh (Chairman), J. S. Ezekiell, C. J. Holliday, P. G. Hübbe, M. Kalb, R. Mackenzie, G. J. Morrison, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for week ended 6th inst. is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Markets.—The Inspector reports that during September the markets and butcher's shops were visited daily, and found well supplied with good and wholesome articles of food.

The number of animals killed to supply the foreign markets during the month was: oxen 539, sheep 861, calves 111, pigs 10; and at the grease shops for native consumption: oxen 391, water buffaloes 211, sheep 12, and ponies 13.

There has been a good deal of disease amongst the cattle at Pah-sin-jach, 23 oxen having been attacked in one shed on the southern outskirts of the village. The ponies in the native livery stables are free from disease, but many are still in poor condition.

There is a further decrease in the number of licensed carriages, only 157 licences having been issued for October, against 175 for September.

Site for a Slaughter-house.—Mr. Howes reports that he has inspected the two lots of land offered for sale, both of which are situated on the Hongkew Creek, nearly opposite Messrs. Iveson & Co.'s Millstone; either is well adapted as a site for a slaughter house, and it is probable that arrangements could be made for a new road to

much indebted to them for their services, but we think that the time has now come for us to be represented by a special agent of our own in the Straits, and we believe that the results will justify the step we are taking. I have now much pleasure in proposing the first resolution and before putting it to the meeting, I shall be happy to answer any questions which any of you may desire to put.

No questions being asked,

The CHAIRMAN moved :—

That the Report of the Directors and accounts for the half year ended 30th June, 1883, as presented to this meeting, be adopted and passed.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. HEARN, and unanimously adopted.

(The report and accounts appeared in our issue of the 9th inst.)

The CHAIRMAN then moved :—

That the Directors be empowered to close the accounts for the year 1883, as soon as it may be found practicable to do so, and distribute the remaining profits of that year by payment of a further share dividend and a further return to contributing shareholders.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. BRAND, and carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business we have to bring before you. I thank you for your attendance.

Mr. NILS MÖLLER asked the indulgence of the Chairman and directors while he called attention to the subject of the surveying department of the Company, which, since the late Secretary left, had undergone very sweeping changes. He (Mr. Möller) had been, in plain terms, asked to retain the services of the Company's surveyor, and he thought this was a thing the shareholders ought to object to for two reasons. In the first place, if he retained the services of the Company's surveyor, the surveyor became as much his servant as that of the Company; and in the second place it was a principle which must lead to abuses. The surveyor must be a man of the strictest integrity, and he must be a person so well acquainted with ship-building, and ships in general, as to be above criticism. Therefore he (Mr. Möller) took the liberty to ask the Chairman and directors three questions: first—Did they pay Mr. Warberg any salary? secondly—What salary did Mr. Warberg get? and thirdly—What kind of work did they expect him to do for the money? He asked these questions because peculiarly he had lost considerably during the last month or two owing to the sweeping changes that had taken place. Of course the Secretary could do as he pleased; and if he (Mr. Möller) had to retain the services of the Company's Surveyor, he supposed he must do so. But, for the reasons he had stated, he did not like to do so. As an instance of what he meant, he would take the case of a ship of his—the *Hilda*. She had been classed for fourteen years and was in first-class order. Last January, February and March she made three journeys to Hakodate and back, and Mr. Morris took all risks on her and she acquitted herself well. But lately all of a sudden he received a telegram from Hakodate stating that the Company could not insure the ship; and he had to take cargo at reduced rates, entailing a loss on him of £15,600. He did not think that it was his bounden duty to retain the services of the Company's Surveyor, and as he said before he thought the Surveyor ought to be above criticism in his profession.

The CHAIRMAN said the directors were very much obliged to Mr. Möller for bringing forward this subject. Mr. Davis, the Secretary, knew far more about these details than the directors did, and he would reply to Mr. Möller in a few words.

Mr. MÖLLER said he was prepared to answer any questions which Mr. Davis might wish to ask him about the case he had mentioned.

Mr. DAVIS said he had no questions to ask. Mr. Möller was a ship-owner who had

a large number of ships running on the coast which were not classed in any book, and which were not subject to any rules or regulations. Under these circumstances he (Mr. Davis) thought that if Mr. Möller wished him to take the risk of his ships, he was entitled to ask that those ships should be submitted to periodical surveys or inspections. Mr. Möller had taken his business out of the hands of the Company's Surveyor, and had objected, he believed, to the Surveyor's visits; at any rate no surveys had been made. Under these circumstances it was impossible that he should take the risk; it was necessary that the Company should have constant supervision of these ships if they took the risk.

Mr. MÖLLER said he quite agreed with Mr. Davis on that point; but the ships of which he had been speaking were classed ships. The French mail-boats did not hold a better class than the ship he had instanced. She had a fourteen-years' class and she was only three years old, and she had out of that time lain eleven months in Shanghai, sustaining no damage.

Mr. DAVIS—I do not think I can go into a question of this sort here. I cannot be expected to disclose private reports, made to me by our own Surveyor, at a public meeting.

Mr. BRAND—May I say one word to you, Mr. Möller? It seems to me that the cause of trouble is purely a departmental one. It is one that neither the shareholders nor the directors are capable of giving you advice upon here. If you will submit your complaint to the directors in writing they will give every attention to it.

Mr. MÖLLER—If the Secretary does not give me any satisfaction I must come to the shareholders. I admit that the Secretary must go by the Surveyor's reports; but I object to having to retain and pay a man who is already paid by the Company. I cannot go behind the Surveyor of the Company, as Mr. Davis once asked me to do, and point out to him, "You are wrong here and right there and wrong here." I am not paid to do that. The Secretary has said to me, "Mr. Möller, all the Company requires of you is to re-copper your ship and make the necessary repairs and call our Surveyor." I have done so, and the Surveyor won't come; but gives private reports to the Secretary. I cannot drive him on board; and then he gives private reports to the Secretary upon ships that he has never been on board. Mr. Möller then instanced the case of the *Kolga*, which he said the Surveyor, without properly inspecting had made an unfavourable report upon, the complaint which he made of the ship being, Mr. Möller contended, quite groundless.

The CHAIRMAN—If you will kindly put your complaint in writing, the directors will give it every attention.

Mr. MÖLLER—I will do so to-morrow. I can prove what I have said, and I am prepared to do it. A reformation is absolutely necessary.

The meeting then separated.

Reports.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LIMITED.

Report for presentation to the shareholders at the tenth ordinary meeting to be held at the Society's office at 12 o'clock noon, on Saturday, the 20th October, 1883. The Directors have now the pleasure to submit to the shareholders a statement for 1881, and a report of the business of the Society for the year 1882, and for the six months ending 30th June 1883.

1881.—Of the balance of \$98,903.12 carried forward from this year to meet liabilities and claims pending, but a trifling sum remains to meet claims which have still to be settled.

1882.—The net premium collected for the year after deducting returns and re-insurances amounts to \$1,099,213.82. After providing for an interim bonus of 2 per cent. to contributing shareholders, declared in May last, there remains a balance at credit of \$218,255.02 as per annexed statement of working account. The Directors now propose paying a second bonus of 5 per cent. to contributors, a dividend of \$18.20 per share, and to carry \$76,255.50 to Reserve, raising that fund to \$500,000. The balance of \$60,285.13 is it proposed to carry forward to meet liabilities and claims still outstanding, thus closing the account for 1882.

1883. The position of the Society for the present year, so far as can be ascertained, is as follows :—

Balance of Working Account to 30th June	\$576,391.99
Estimated Premium earned since, less Reinsurances, Returns, and Charges.....	315,000.00
	\$891,391.99
Deduct Losses and Claims known to date.....	311,000.00
	\$580,391.99

Constitution—Since the date of the last Report the Society has been Registered as a Limited Company, and the various changes in the Articles of Association sanctioned by Shareholders have been made.

Directors—Owing to the resignation of Mr. Hoppius, Mr. Gultzow was invited to join the Board, and his election now requires the confirmation of the meeting.

In accordance with clause 110 of the Articles of Association, Messrs. F. D. Sasson and A. P. McEwen retire but offer themselves for re-election.

Auditors—Messrs. J. H. Cox and A. Wemyss retire but offer themselves for re-election.

P. RYRIE,
Chairman.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st December, 1882.

Dr.		\$
To paid up Capital	250,000.00	
Reserve Fund.....	423,734.60	
Unclaimed Bonus and Dividends.....	2,001.21	
Losses and Claims	329,607.82	
Bonus of 20% declared 6th May, 1883.....	180,637.56	
Amount at Debit of working account 1882	218,355.62	
Sundry Creditors	69,309.91	
	\$1,473,355.42	
Cr.		\$
By Cash on Current account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	18,637.21	
Cash on Deposit, viz : Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.....	120,000.00	
Chartered Merchantile Bank of India, London and China	30,000.00	
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	250,000.00	
Oriental Bank Corporation.....	60,000.00	
	490,000.00	
Cash on Loan to Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited	120,000.00	
Amount at Debit of London Branch and Agencies including : £80,000 invested in London in Consols, East India Government guaranteed, Railways, &c., and £28,000 on Deposit in London and County Bank	770,506.61	
By Bills Receivable (since received)	12,599.63	
Bills Remitted to London Agency 31st December account, but not due on that date	5,717.87	
Sundry Debtors.....	55,894.00	
	\$1,473,355.42	

WORKING ACCOUNT, 31st December, 1882.

Dr.		\$
To amount at Debit of Working Account 30th June, 1882	552,127.36	
Net Premium 1st July to 31st December, 1882	452,884.51	
Exchange	2,670.52	
Interest	36,978.31	
	\$1,043,858.70	

Cr.	
By Agency Commissions	\$ 22,387.47
" Charges	5,212.66
" Head Office Charges	16,621.47
" Shanghai Charges	7,770.23
" London Charges	16,820.42
Remuneration for half-year ending	
31st December, 1882, viz:	
to Directors	3,500.00
to Shanghai & London Committees, and Fees to Auditors	1,445.92
Losses and Claims paid	571,404.95
1st Bonus on contributions a/c 1882 of 20% (declared 21st May, 1883)	180,537.26
Balance transferred	318,955.02
	\$1,043,955.70

DOUGLAS JONES,
Acting Secretary.

We have compared the above Statements with the Books, Vouchers, and Securities at the Head Office, and with the Returns received from the various Agencies of the Society, and have found the same to be correct.

JAMES H. COX, } Auditors.
A. WEMYSS,

Hongkong, 5th October, 1883.

BALANCE SHEET, 30th June, 1883.	
Dr.	
To paid up Capital	\$ 250,000.00
Reserve Fund	423,744.50
Unclaimed Bonus and Dividend account 1882 (declared 21st May, 1883)	99,230.76
Amount at Debit of Working account 1882	218,255.03
Amount at Debit of Working account 1883	576,381.99
Sundry Creditors	104,791.96
(since paid \$59,030)	
	\$1,672,464.23

Cr.	
By Cash on Current Account with the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$1,568.65
Cash on Deposit, viz:	
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	150,000.00
Chartered Mercantile Bank of India, London and China	30,000.00
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	320,000.00
Oriental Bank Corporation	50,000.00
	550,000.00
Cash on Loan to Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. Limited	120,000.00
Amount at Debit of London Branch and Agencies, including:	
£50,000 invested in London in Consols, East India Government guaranteed Railways, &c., and	
£37,000 on Deposit with Banks in London	899,457.56
By Bills Receivable (since received)	33,002.92
Bills remitted to London Agent 30th June account, but not due on that date	16,507.32
Sundry Debtors	21,927.88
	\$1,672,464.23

WORKING ACCOUNT, 30th June, 1883.

Dr.	
To Net Premium from 1st January to 30th June, 1883	\$ 731,028.96
Exchange	1,313.26
Interest	19,709.48
	\$752,051.70

Cr.	
By Agency Commissions	\$ 11,424.78
" Charges	4,787.97
" Head Office Charges	16,189.61
" Shanghai	7,819.18
" London	17,108.54
" 30th June, 1883, viz:	
to Directors	3,500.00
to Shanghai and London Committees and Fees to Auditors	2,855.00
Losses and Claims paid	110,602.38
Legal Expenses reconstructing Society as Limited Company etc., etc.	1,371.35
Balance transferred	576,991.99
	\$752,051.70

DOUGLAS JONES,
Acting Secretary.

We have compared the above Statements with the Books, Vouchers, and Securities at the Head Office, and with the Returns received from the various Agencies of the Society, and have found the same to be correct.

JAMES H. COX, } Auditors.
A. WEMYSS,

Hongkong 5th October, 1883.

SOLAR AND LUNAR ECLIPSES IN OCTOBER, 1883.

1.—The Eclipse of the Moon on Tuesday, the 16th, will not be visible at Shanghai. It will take place between 2h. 5m. p.m., when the Moon will enter the Earth's shadow, and 3h. 55m., when she will emerge; so that everything will be over by the time the Moon rises.

2.—The Eclipse of the Sun on Wednesday the 31st, will be partly visible at Shanghai at sunrise, which will take place at 6h. 16m.; as the eclipse will have commenced at 5h. 25m. The central line

of the eclipse will cross Japan from the south-east to west north-west, about a hundred miles to the north of Yokohama, and will come out upon the 41st parallel of latitude on the frontier of Corea. To the west of this meridian the eclipse will only be partial, and on its decline at sunrise it will be possible, by going to sea to a distance of about 130 miles east of Shanghai, to observe the central eclipse at the very moment when the Sun appears on the horizon. At sunrise in Shanghai about two thirds of the Sun's disc will be obscured, and the eclipse will finish at 10h. 54m. a.m. The eclipse will be visible as far as the middle of Sze-chuen, and the western coast of the island of Hainan; but Tonquin will not enjoy the sight of the phenomenon.

This eclipse will be central and annular; that is to say, that in all portion of the Earth where the eclipse is central, the disc of the Moon will not cover that of the Sun completely; and there will therefore be a brilliant ring of light surrounding the Moon's dark disc. It is known that a Solar Eclipse may be either total or annular, according as the apparent semi-diameter of the Moon, which varies as its distance from the Earth, and which is comprised between 14' 43" and 16' 46" is, at the conjunction of the two bodies, greater than, equal to, or less than that of the Sun, which is comprised between 15' 46" (the beginning of July) and 16' 18" (the beginning of January). In the case in question, the 31st October, the semi-diameter of the Moon will be 14' 43", whereas that of the Sun will be 16' 9"; and it may thus be seen that circumstances will be most favourable for giving rise to an annular eclipse of long duration. The annular phase will last, indeed, as long as ten minutes nineteen seconds maximum in the place whose longitude is 174° 10' W. and latitude 15° 0' N. the middle of the Pacific.

MARC DECHEVRENS, S.J.

Amusements.

THE AUSTRIAN LADIES' BAND.

This very talented and deserving company gave their first performance at the Lyceum Theatre on Saturday evening, when an excellent programme was provided. The personnel of the troupe consists of six ladies and five gentlemen, whose instrumentation on violins, flutes, and drums is of a very high order. The vocalisation of the ladies who sang was also excellent, and the concert would have been a very marked success had not the theatre most unfortunately been filled by a number of turbulent individuals who had entirely mistaken the nature of the entertainment to which they had come. This error on their part was all the more regrettable, as there are plenty of taverns on the Yang-king-pang where persons with a taste for rowdiness can go and make as much row as they please to the accompaniment of a crazy fiddle and a piano out of tune. The entertainment by the Austrian Ladies was, in fact, utterly spoiled by this misapprehension on the part of the roughs who had been admitted, and who seemed to find far more pleasure in their own stamping and whistling than in the charming music which, like the pearls in the parable, was thus wasted upon them. At last the nuisance became so great that some gentlemen who had attended the performance got up and went away, rather than run the risk of witnessing a still worse row. The behaviour of the performers under these circumstances was nothing less than admirable, and we trust for their own sakes as well as for the reputation of Shanghai that this will prove the first and the last occasion on which they will be exposed to such insults. We therefore do not hesitate to express a hope that next time there is a performance by this troupe it will be patronised by

ladies. The presence of ladies among the audience will at least ensure decency of conduct, and we have no scruples in assuring them that the Austrian concert will well repay them for a visit. The entertainment is of a high-class character, and deserves the support of all lovers of vocal and instrumental music.

SHANGHAI YACHT CLUB.

The 20th and the last regatta of this year's yachting season was sailed on Saturday, the 13th inst., and was a handicap race up river, round a stakeboat moored off Sakong Creek, and back to Shanghai. The day was ushered in by rain, but before the time appointed for the start, the weather cleared, and when a gun from the *Yuenfah* gave the signal, the five yachts entered for the race crossed the line as follows:—

		h.	m.	s.
Undine	allowed 0 minutes	at	10	6
Fairy	" 0	"	10	7
Louise	" 0	"	10	7
Thistle	" 5	"	10	9
Ariadne	" 5	"	10	10

With a moderate breeze from North, and a flood tide, the yachts with balloon jibs boomed out passed quickly through the shipping, and before reaching the junks at the lower end of Arsenal Reach, a friendly puff of wind wafted the *Louise* past the *Fairy* into second place. The wind then felt light, which with her great spread of canvass was in her favour, and she soon caught and passed the *Undine*. With light variable airs all the way to the stakeboat, mainsails and balloon jibs were jibed as occasion required, and every thing that could be set, "was spread to catch each passing flow."

The pyjama topsail of the *Louise* proved its efficiency, as she gradually drew away from the *Undine* and *Fairy* and when the fleet had fairly entered the Seven Mile Reach she was a mile ahead of them, while the *Thistle* and *Ariadne* were far astern. Just before reaching the stakeboat, a not uncommon phase of yachting experience occurred, which materially changed the aspect of affairs. The *Undine* short distance ahead of the *Fairy* was caught by a puff of wind that bowled her along with a bone in her mouth, until she got within speaking distance of the *Louise* when the breeze passed off to leeward of the *Louise*, leaving the two yachts in close proximity, nearly becalmed. The Ancient Mariner at the helm of the *Louise* watched the *Undine*'s rapid approach while his own craft barely had steerage way,

And often did he whistle for a breeze
Although not superstitiously inclined;
Yet many think who sail upon the seas
That by such means they'll surely raise the wind.

And so they will, if they but bear in mind
To whistle long enough, 'twill never fail,
And the bold whistler frequently will find
That to his summons springeth up a gale
Obliging him to call all hands to shorten sail.

The stake boat was rounded by the

		h.	m.	s.
Louise	.....	at	1	11
Undine	.....	"	1	12
Fairy	.....	"	1	21
Thistle	.....	"	1	39
Ariadne	.....	"	1	42

the tide still running flood, and very little wind to beat against it. The breeze however soon began to freshen and by the time that the *Ariadne* headed for home, there was a fair prospect of a close race between the two leading yachts, but just when there was wind enough for the *Undine* to display her power, it was found that her centreboard was broken, and she anchored to get it clear of her bottom and on board. The *Louise* with a long lead, came home an easy winner, the record being as follows:—

Yachts.	Allow- ance.	Start.	Finish.	Elapsed time.	Corrected time.
m.	m.	m. s.	m. s.	m. s.	m. s.
Louise...	0	10 7 13	5 30 10	7 22 57	7 22 57
Fairy...	0	10 7 03	5 46 00	7 39 03	7 39 00
Thistle...	0	10 9 36	5 55 45	7 46 09	7 41 09
Ariadne...	5	10 10 00	not taken.		
Undine...	0	10 6 00	"	"	"

CRICKET.

A match between the Race and Cricket Clubs was played on Saturday. It ended in a draw in favour of the Race Club, as 121 runs were recorded for four wickets down, against 89 of the Cricket Club. Mr. Dunman, not out, scored 61. The following are the scores:—

S.C.C.

Mr. H. E. Fulford, b. Macgregor.....	32
" T. Latham, b. Macgregor.....	2
" A. Anderson, l. b. w., b. Dunman.....	30
" H. H. Taylor, c. Dunman, b. Burrows.....	7
" F. Anderson, c. Dunman, b. Burrows.....	23
" A. E. Reynell, c. Ezekiel, b. Burrows.....	55
" J. Neilson, run out.....	2
" A. Davis, b. Burrows.....	9
" B. H. Burns, c. Macgregor, b. Hutchings.....	13
" C. Cole, not out.....	16
" E. Kennedy, b. Dunman.....	3
Extras.....	13

Total, 196

Runs at the fall of each wicket:—

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	58	58	89	92	92	116	165	187	196

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Balls.	Runs.	Over.	Wickets.	Wides.
Mr. W. Dunman.....	90	50	2	2	0
" R. McGregor.....	115	71	3	2	1
" Burrows.....	89	23	5	4	0
" Hutchings.....	35	30	0	1	0
" Dodwell.....	20	4	2	0	1

Maidens.

Mr. W. Dunman, not out.....	61
" E. H. Gore-Booth, run out.....	9
" C. P. Chatter, b. Davis.....	9
" G. B. Dodwell, c. F. Anderson, b. Davis.....	1
" R. Macgregor, b. Anderson.....	1
" A. Burrows, not out.....	19
" H. Easton, did not bat.....	
" C. H. Hutchings.....	
" R. Buttoujee.....	
" E. S. Ezekiel.....	
" S. Walker.....	
Extras.....	21

121

MONTHLY CHALLENGE CUP OF No. 2 Co., S.V.C.

This cup was competed for on Saturday. In the morning it rained heavily; notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, Lieutenant Lanning and Sergeant Bowman each made 32 points out of a possible 35 at the 500 yards range. Sergeants Bright and Bowman made an equal score of 61, but as the latter put together the largest score at the long range, he takes the cup.

The following are the scores:—

	200 yards.	Total.	500 yards.	Total.	Grand Total.
Sergt. Bowman.....	4344515—29	4454555—32	41		
" Bright.....	3454354—30	5545256—31	61		
Lieut. Lanning.....	3453334—26	6355551—32	68		
Priv. Alger.....	2334432—21	2335434—23	44		
" Clifton.....	2323435—22	5220522—18	40		

Correspondence.

DEATH TO DOCTORING.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The letter of 'A Student' on the ages of Sinologues is just the sort of thing to interest your readers. It shows as clearly as anything I have read for a long time, how studying Chinese preserves life, and considering the unhealthy climate of numbers of places in this country I don't know anything that has lately been pleasanter reading to me than this letter. I have been a long time here, having originally come out with the intention of making a fortune in three or four years; and having, like a great many others, been disappointed, I have had to hang on, and my health has somewhat suffered in consequence. The anxieties of life now-a-days are greater than they were in 1863, when I arrived in China. At all events a man feels them

more. Often, after the Hankow new teas have been shipped off and we are waiting for telegrams, I do feel awfully run-down, and as I can't talk about my feelings to a friend, and a doctor is no use at such times, I have then very bad days indeed. There are other periods in one's life here when one feels the effects of the climate and the other things that militate against the health of the foreigner, but I shall not allude particularly to them. Your readers will understand to what I refer, and will, I fancy, be as grateful as I am to 'A Student' for the ray of hope which he gives that a remedy may have been discovered for many of the evils which residence in China entails on the foreigner. It may be only a transient and deceptive ray, but then it may not, and it certainly seems worth while asking for some information or ideas on the subject from 'A Student' and other distinguished and learned persons. Does 'A Student' think that where no organic injury had been done to the constitution, a foreigner's health might be restored by a gentle course of Chinese, as physicians, in consultation with sinologues, might consider fit to prescribe? When a man's liver is out of order at home he is often sent to take a course of waters at some one or other of the German baths. Now, what has struck me after reading 'A Student's' letter is, that if one was pretty seedy here his doctor might prescribe a fortnight of Shanghai, a month of Ningpo or Cantonese, and in extreme cases even longer periods of mandarin dialect, and that these would act like the waters of the Spas on the diseased systems. When people get out of sorts here they go to Chefoo or Japan; but it is often inconvenient to get away, and it would be much pleasanter if a man could be put right on the spot by a mild treatment in Chinese tones, or something of that kind. The curative and preservative powers which 'A Student' has almost convinced me reside in the Chinese language, when studied by foreigners, would not, like the medicines of the physician, or the healing waters of nature, lose their effect by repeated use. They would be communicated through the mind to the diseased parts of the body, and neither these nor any other portion of the body would be affected as we know they are now by the use of some mineral, and perhaps vegetable, drugs. There would be no evil after-effects, and the cure once completed, health and vigour would not be diminished by the strength of the means by which they had been re-obtained. Thus longevity, happy, and free from the ills that flesh that has been medicinally treated for its ailments is heir to, might become the lot of the deeply studious foreigners who took their morning and evening Chinese.

It might perhaps be over-sanguine to dream of a realization of the alchemist's Elixir of Life by the assiduous cultivation of the knowledge of the Chinese language, but it may be possible that the existence of foreigners may be prolonged far beyond the best authentic instances of longevity by this means. The ages of the patriarchs might be obtained again in these later days, and even exceeded, if not in our times in those which come after us. For succeeding generations of foreigners in China could begin at the beginning of the lives of their children. Instead of having these unhappy creatures dosed and doctored, their ailments might be corrected by a few sentences spoken to them in that Chinese dialect which the researches of science would soon proceed to ascertain to be the most suitable for infantile complaints. Instead of administering medicated syrups, ipecac, or the other noxious compounds with which the sufferings of unconscious infancy are allayed, the soothing influences of a few lines from a Sage, a poet, or a novelist might be employed. And when the faculties of the child were so far advanced as to allow it to commit to memory and gradually acquire the power of reading Chinese, it would be

called on to heal itself, by perusing or repeating some sinological cure. As life advanced, the knowledge of Chinese would increase, and therefore the mind would possess within itself the power of meeting and curing the attacks of disease, if not indeed of preventing them altogether. There are drugs by which fevers, gout, and diseases of the different organs can be ward off; why, therefore, should not a perfected system of sinological treatment achieve the same merciful success over these? I am not sure whether this system which I have attempted to indicate is likely to be as successful in surgical as in medical cases, but it may prove to. Think how great a boon to mankind it will be if the knife, the saw, the forceps, and the other ghastly instruments of the surgeon, can be made to give place to treatment by Chinese philology. A compound fracture set by so many hours' study of K'ung Fu-tze, a bullet-wound cured by constant repetition of the Book of Odes, and a molar freed from tooth-ache by daily readings of the Peking Gazette!

It is quite true that the Sinologues to whom 'A Student' referred all died at ages which might be equalled among people who never heard a more civilized language than Gaelic spoken. But how if these gentlemen had been treated from their very earliest days according to the system I have endeavoured to indicate? Had De Guignes, for instance, had his first intestinal and convulsional complaints removed according to my system, I can see that he might have been living now in a hale and hearty strength, instead of dying forty years ago at the early age of eighty six.

I cannot take up more of your valuable space, though I know I have barely succeeded in giving a hint of the bright future for sinological humanity which 'A Student' has opened on my mental vision. But I hope I may be allowed to commend the subject to the only body in Shanghai that I can think of as likely to consider it fully, justly, and so as to prove its merits or demerits, suitability or unsuitability to the wants of our race—the Royal Asiatic Society. A paper on my suggestion, from the President, who will no doubt see the whole subject at a glance, would be very interesting.

Yours,

MENS INSANA, &c.

9th October.

THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In your leading article this morning you refer somewhat sarcastically to Dr. Jamieson's remarks about the small-pox wards at the General Hospital. I have read Dr. Jamieson's official report, and from my own experience can vouch for the accuracy of the statements contained therein. Far from being either a sensational or overdrawn picture, many glaring faults have not been published. Early in the present year I had the misfortune to put in a considerable time, as a so-called first-class small-pox patient at the Hospital. On arriving there I was placed in a room already occupied by one man; the place was small, scarcely space for the two beds; mine was placed close to the door, thus exposing me to the draught on any one entering. It was impossible to ventilate the room by opening the door or window (grate, there was none) without exposing either one or both of us to the serious risk of catching a chill, while the gas generated by the small stove, situated nearly in the centre of the room, was enough to choke the proverbial black. It would occupy too much of your valuable space to enumerate one half the discomforts to which we were exposed, many of them easily preventable by proper management. I will simply state

one or two facts that came under my immediate notice, and which are not mentioned by Dr. Jamieson, but which in my opinion support his statement that the arrangements for smallpox patients are scandalous.

A few days after my return to consciousness the boy in attendance on me assisted me from bed to remove the scales that had fallen from me. In my ignorance I concluded these would be burned or otherwise safely destroyed; but the boy knew an easier method;—he simply threw them over the verandah. Those not scattered by the wind, fell into the yard beneath, a place set apart for the convalescent smallpox patients; and where their friends usually see them for the first time after their recovery. I naturally remonstrated with the boy, and mentioned the occurrence to my Doctor when he next visited me.

I frequently had complained of the boy's absence from my room. Occasionally this occurred when the place was presumably locked up for the night. I eventually enquired where he spent his time while he was away from me, to which he replied that all those boys who could get away met together to hear a number-one Sing-song man, then in Hospital, and who relieved the monotony of existence by tale-telling. This same boy used also to attend chapel with the Sisters, several times during my enforced stay. I may mention that my attack was a most virulent one, and that this boy slept in my room each night, during the time I remained in Hospital.

While confirming all Dr. Jamieson has stated, I could relate many instances in which proper precautions were not taken to isolate those in attendance on the smallpox patients; but I think enough has been said to prove how easily this boy had opportunities of mixing with the other attendants, and I think it must be placed to the account of good luck, rather than good management, that the whole place was not turned into one vast Smallpox Hospital.

Apologising for the length of this letter, I am, Sir,

A MARKED MAN.

9th October, 1883.

* * Our Correspondent is probably not aware that the accommodation for smallpox patients in the General Hospital has long been the subject of earnest effort on the part of the Surgeon and the Governors. Delay in providing suitable quarters has been unavoidable, and the rooms at present in use are no more than a provisional arrangement. No blame, we believe, attaches to either of the parties we have mentioned. Proper accommodation is being rapidly prepared, and will soon be ready for use. It was a conviction that these facts were not unknown to the editor of the *Customs Gazette* that led us to write in the caustic vein so much deprecated by our Correspondent.—Ed.

THE SMALLPOX WARDS AT THE GENERAL HOSPITAL.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—In an editorial note appended to a letter in this morning's paper you state

1.—That the rooms at the General Hospital at present in use as smallpox wards are no more than a provisional arrangement;

2.—That proper accommodation is being rapidly prepared and will soon be ready for use;

3.—That you have a conviction that these "facts" are not unknown to me.

Will you be good enough to mention any ground that may exist to support the assertions made and implied in these paragraphs? The following considerations may perhaps aid you in complying with this not unreasonable request:—

1.—An arrangement which has lasted for several years cannot be justly styled provisional;

2.—Not a single brick has been stirred with a view to the provision of that proper

accommodation which you say is being rapidly prepared;

3.—The conviction that you express is absolutely without justification. The propriety of attributing dishonesty to the writer of an official report is a question of taste. It seems to me to be bad taste, but I am old-fashioned and therefore, I dare say, mistaken.

Yours faithfully,

R. A. JAMIESON.

Shanghai, 10th Oct.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—The question of the accommodation for smallpox patients has come before the public once more. It seems to me that there is some danger that in the heat of the discussion the main object of the debate will be lost sight of. It is not a matter of very great moment to the public whether some individuals have acted in a courteous manner to the Governors of the Hospital, or even if the Governors have been somewhat slow in coming to a final decision as to what had best be done in the premises. In fact, we should be very thankful that the authorities have not, as yet, committed themselves to any scheme, and that there is still time to avail ourselves of the best plan which may be presented. What the public ought to know is, first—That the best possible plan for a smallpox hospital has been adopted. Second—That prompt and decided steps are to be taken to carry out the plan selected. It is too late now to get the land and erect suitable new buildings for a good smallpox hospital which shall be available for use this coming winter. The only thing to do is to fit up the old buildings with suitable warming and ventilating apparatus, to put a proper wall and gates to the compound, and to compel the attendants to remain locked up on the premises with the patients under their charge. The details of this scheme for isolating the smallpox patients are too numerous to be mentioned in an article of this nature, but will readily suggest themselves to the able and efficient surgeon who has charge of the hospital. Now comes the question, what is the best provision to make for the future? To meet the growing wants of this community, we have to provide a place where smallpox and typhus fever patients can be isolated and properly cared for. The same place, after being suitably disinfected, can be used for cholera patients in summer. By no means let us adopt the plan proposed in the letter of the Governors to the Municipal Council. The smallpox wards ought not to be in a crowded portion of the settlement; they ought not to be within a half a mile of the General Hospital. The proper plan should be to select a site well out of town—say near the line of the Woosung railway,—or else, somewhere down the Yangtze-poo Road; secure eight mow of land and put up suitable buildings, on a plan which would allow for any future additions. The land at a suitable distance from the settlement would not cost more than Tls. 300 per mow—say Tls. 2,500, for land. The buildings necessary for the accommodation of 20 patients can be put up for Tls. 5,000. The furniture and apparatus needed would cost Tls. 1,000, making a total sum of Tls. 9,000. This calculation is one which allows for the best of everything. As most of the smallpox, typhus, and cholera patients can pay for their accommodation there would be some return on the money invested. As a community, we owe a duty to those of our number who suffer from these severe diseases. They are isolated to add to the safety of others, and we should provide them with the best quarters and comforts during their time of illness and suffering.

Yours very truly,

H. W. BOONE, M.D.

Shanghai, 11th October,

'ARRY AT THE LYCEUM.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Undoubtedly the respectable portion of the community will fully endorse your remarks in this morning's paper regarding the conduct of certain persons at the Theatre. It has come to such a pass that no gentleman can take a lady to any performance unless he satisfies himself beforehand that there will be a sufficient number of ladies present to hold in check the rowdiness of some of the men of the place, who no doubt consider themselves entitled to be called gentlemen. These men still have enough sense of propriety left to conduct themselves properly if they see a number of ladies present; but it is a fact that although there may be one or two ladies present, if they happen not to be personally known to these 'Arrys, their presence is totally ignored, and 'Arry turns the only place of amusement that is open to respectable people into a Music Hall; and this altogether apart from the character of the performance or performers. It is really disgraceful that at such an entertainment as that of Saturday evening gentlemen should need the presence of ladies to protect them from annoyances and enable them to enjoy the performance. It is evident these men wish to be seen and heard, and seek notoriety; it is a pity, then, they should be confined to the narrow limits of a scanty audience. Let their fame have greater scope, and to your next critique of a performance append the names of those who distinguished themselves in that line. "Mr. * * * made the most noise and the biggest jokes, ably seconded, however, by Messrs. So and So."—This might have a good effect, for it would probably carry their fame to ears in which they would prefer to remain unsung! If there is not a reform in a good deal that goes on in our Theatre, some steps of the kind should be taken, or respectable people will give up going and respectable troupes give up coming, entailing not only loss of amusement but depreciation of property.

Yours,

A SHAREHOLDER.

Shanghai, 15th Oct.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

In Admiralty.

Shanghai, 11th October.

Before Sir RICHARD T. RENNIE,
Chief Justice.

THE BRITISH LORCHA "CHINLING."

This was an action brought against the British lorch *Chinling*, Captain Albert Gorschaleky, by the widows of three men who were alleged to have been drowned, and by some passengers who were alleged to have lost their baggage, through a collision said to have occurred between the *Chinling* and a Chinese ferry boat, called *Ta Kwa Chow*, on the Yangtze, near Wade Island, on the 12th September, 1882. The widow of Pao Liu Tseng, the owner of the ferry boat, claimed Tls. 320 as the value of the boat, etc., and Tls. 300 compensation for the loss of her husband; the widow of Sing Da fa, a passenger by the ferry-boat, claimed Tls. 350; the widow of Pao Liu Tsai, another passenger, claimed Tls. 450; and other passengers brought claims for the loss of their baggage and goods.

Mr. H. S. WILKINSON appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. R. E. WAINWRIGHT for the defence.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT applied for an adjournment of the hearing, on the grounds of an affidavit which he had sworn to the effect that he had been prevented from obtaining the attendance of some Chinese

witnesses whose evidence was material to his case. On the 22nd September he applied to the Court to assist him in procuring the attendance of these witnesses, and he wrote to Mr. Allen, acting Consul at Wuhu, requesting him to procure their attendance. On the 1st and 5th October he learned that the Taotai of Wuhu had in the first instance refused to render any assistance in the matter, but that having been again applied to by the Acting Consul he had promised to have the witnesses sent on. To the best of his (Mr. Wainwright's) knowledge, these witnesses were on their way to Shanghai or about to proceed there, and he therefore asked for an adjournment.

Mr. WILKINSON opposed the application. He pointed out that the case had been repeatedly adjourned. He further pointed out that Mr. Wainwright did not say in his affidavit that he did not make the application simply for the purpose of delaying the trial; and he (Mr. Wilkinson) submitted that there had been a desire on the part of the defendants to delay the trial. He contended that there had been ample time for the defendants to obtain the attendance of their witnesses.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT argued that it was not necessary for him to state in his affidavit that the application was not made for the simple purpose of delaying the trial. He said his witnesses would have been in attendance but for the action of the Taotai of Wuhu, and he contended that he was therefore entitled to ask for an adjournment. He had expected the witnesses to arrive on the previous day, and they might arrive to-day.

After a long argument,

His LORDSHIP said he did consider that sufficient grounds had been shown for asking for an adjournment. He would refuse the application at present. They could then proceed with the plaintiffs' case, and if in the meantime the defendant's witnesses did not arrive he might make another application.

Mr. WILKINSON then applied that the Preliminary Acts might be opened. The evidence of a large number of witnesses on both sides had been taken *de bene esse*.

The Preliminary Acts having been opened,

Mr. WILKINSON summarised the contents of the plaintiffs' petition, which was to the effect that on the night of the 12th September, between 8 and 9 o'clock, a ferry boat, containing six Chinese passengers and a crew of three hands, was run down by the British lorch *Chinling* near Wade Island. The owner of the ferry-boat and two passengers were drowned, and the six others were saved by a cargo-boat. The petition then went on to state the capacities in which the different plaintiffs sued, and the amounts of their claims. The defendants denied that either on the 12th or any other day in September the *Chinling* was in collision with any other vessel.

His LORDSHIP asked in what way the vessel which was alleged to have run down the ferry-boat was identified with the *Chinling*.

Mr. WILKINSON said the petition stated that the collision occurred at 10 o'clock in the morning of the 12th September, and it was admitted that at 9 o'clock on that morning the *Chinling* was at a spot about 11 miles below the place where the collision occurred.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he did not admit that at all; it was not in evidence.

Mr. WILKINSON said it was in evidence.

His LORDSHIP said nothing was in evidence at present. Until the evidence taken before the hearing had been read over, it was not supposed to be in evidence.

Mr. WILKINSON was about to read the evidence which had been given by one Ching Chang Ho, when,

Mr. WAINWRIGHT objected. He had reason to believe that this witness was in

Shanghai, and under these circumstances he contended that his evidence taken before the hearing could not be read.

Mr. WILKINSON admitted that the witness was in Shanghai; but he submitted that it would be a very inconvenient course to take his evidence over again. He admitted that the man's evidence had been taken before the hearing on the assumption that he would probably not be in Shanghai when the case came on, and he admitted that in England under such circumstances evidence given in this way could not be read if the witness was at the time of the hearing within the jurisdiction of the Court. But he argued that under the special rule which applied to this Court the evidence could be read.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT contended that the evidence could not be read. He said he was instructed that the witness was not the man he professed himself to be, that he was not on board the ferry-boat at the time of the alleged collision, and that he was simply getting up this case for his own benefit.

Mr. WILKINSON offered after reading the evidence to call the witness and give Mr. Wainwright the opportunity of cross-examining him again.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT, upon this understanding, withdrew his objection to the reading of the evidence. He said he had had his eye on the witnesses who had given evidence for the plaintiffs, and he believed they were all still in Shanghai.

Mr. WILKINSON said he only knew of two being in Shanghai. Mr. Wainwright would be given the opportunity of again cross-examining both of them.

The evidence of Ching Chang Ho, a passenger by the ferry-boat at the time of the collision, was then read.

CHING CHANG HO was then called and cross-examined by Mr. Wainwright, at whose request he wrote down in Chinese his own name and the names of all the other persons on board the ferry-boat on the morning of the 12th September, 1882, as well as the names and address of the widow and two children of Pao Liu Tseng. He said it was not true that Pao Liu Tseng, the owner of the ferry-boat, was sick and remained at home on the 12th September; he was on board the ferry-boat at the time of the collision and was drowned. He (witness) had remained in Shanghai because this case was not finished. Chên, the Mixed Court Magistrate was paying his expenses.

The Court here adjourned from 12 to 2 o'clock.

CHING CHANG HO, further cross-examined, said Sung Da-fa, one of the three men drowned, left a widow and two children—a son aged fourteen and a daughter aged three. He afterwards said he had made a mistake—the daughter's age was eight. Pao Liu Tsai, the third man drowned, was not a priest; he wore a queue; he was not a Taoist priest. Witness had been asked by Pao Liu Tseng's son and by Pao Liu Tsai's widow to look after their interests; but Pao Liu Tsai's widow did not promise to give him half of what he got for her. He did not know exactly the size of the ferry-boat; but he had heard Pao Liu Ching, the brother of the deceased owner and one of the plaintiffs, say that it was 35 Chinese feet long and 7 broad. Witness owned 130 mow of land on Wade Island, and he went there to collect the rent, which he received in flour, or corn, and firewood. He received about 200 piculs of corn—wheat—a year; and he had 100 piculs lying loose in the ferry-boat at the time of the collision. Witness was not known anywhere by any other name than Ching Chang Ho. He held a literary degree and he could not take a false name.

PAO LIU-CHING, one of the crew, and brother of the late owner, of the ferry-boat, was called and cross-examined by Mr. Wainwright, after his evidence, given before the hearing of the case, had been

read by Mr. Wilkinson. He said it was not true that on the morning of the collision his brother's wife told him that his brother, Pao Liu-tseng, was sick, and asked witness to take his place on the ferry-boat; and it was not true that witness refused to go. Both witness and his brother went, and witness's brother was drowned. Pao Liu-tsai, who was also drowned, was no relation of his.

The evidence, taken before the hearing, of Wong Zin-tsai, another passenger by the ferry-boat, and Van Hoong-shing, Sun Ki-shing and Wei Fong-wa, spectators of the alleged collision, and Wang Tsien-tai a sailor on board the *Chinling*, all witnesses for the plaintiffs, was then read by Mr. Wilkinson.

WANG TSEN-TAI, sailor on board the *Chinling*, whose evidence for the plaintiffs was read by Mr. Wilkinson, had previously been examined as a witness for the defence. In the course of the evidence read by Mr. Wilkinson he said—When I was here before and said I knew nothing of a collision between the *Chinling* and a native boat, that was not true. I saw a collision. The stem of the lorch struck a ferry-boat amidships and cut her in two. The master of the *Chinling* was on deck near the helm. I do not know whether the master gave any orders. The first lowdah was in charge of the helm. The master of the lorch knew of the collision. He ordered the anchor to be let go; but the lowdah said "no." The captain told us if we were asked about the collision to say we did not know.

The case was adjourned till the next morning, at 10 o'clock.

12th October.

Mr. WILKINSON, having read the evidence of Mr. George Nutter, Customs Officer at Wuhu, as to the vessels which had passed Wuhu on the 12th September, said this was all the evidence he had to produce.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he did not know whether his learned friend intended to cite any points of law on the case; if so, he thought that he (Mr. Wainwright) was entitled to know what they were. He did not know whether this was the correct practice; but it had always been the practice at this Court.

His LORDSHIP said it was a practice which he had never fallen in with. It seemed to him monstrous that the plaintiff's counsel should have to begin by setting out all the points of law which he might possibly have to raise in the course of the hearing. At present there was nothing before the Court except questions of fact.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT then again applied for an adjournment on the ground of a second affidavit which he had sworn. In this he stated that he had just received a letter from Mr. Allen, Acting Consul at Wuhu, explaining the causes of the delay in sending the Chinese witnesses, and stating that they would shortly arrive in Shanghai. He said that Mr. Schofield, the defendant in this case, had seen these witnesses, two of whom were the widows of two of the deceased, and plaintiffs in this case, while two others were passengers by the ferry-boat; and he believed their evidence would be to the effect that Pao Liu Tseng had no children; and that Sung Da-fu had neither wife nor children, while the plaintiffs Ching Chang-ho and Pao Liu-ching were not on board the ferry-boat and had nothing to do with the case.

Mr. WILKINSON opposed the application. He said that even if the facts which Mr. Wainwright alleged were proved they would only affect the second stage of the case—that as to the amount of damages,—as Mr. Wainwright now appeared to admit that the ferryboat had been run down.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he did not for a moment admit that the boat was run down; but he had not got to prove that it was

not run down. He had only to prove that his lorcha did not run it down. His case was that Ching Chang Ho and Pao Liu Ching—but especially the former—had got up this case for their own benefit, and that even if the ferry-boat had been run down they had nothing to do with it. Ching Chang Ho was an enterprising tradesman who had had to do with legal proceedings before, and he had gone to these people and offered to get up this case for them and give them half what he got.

His LORDSHIP said if the ferry-boat had been run down and some persons were drowned there would be a claim on the part of their representatives against.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT—on the part of some people against somebody.

His LORDSHIP said, yes; and if it were established to his mind that that somebody was the *Chinling*, he did not think it would dispose of the case to show that it had been got up by Ching Chang Ho.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he should have to satisfy his Lordship that it was not his lorcha.

His LORDSHIP ruled that the case should be proceeded with as far as it could be without the attendance of the Chinese witnesses expected by Mr. Wainwright, and that if the witnesses had not arrived by that time Mr. Wainwright should make another application for an adjournment.

GEORGE MOSSEY, Yangtze Pilot, and compiler of the official charts of the Yangtze River, was then called. He gave evidence at considerable length as to the state of the river near Wade Island on the date of the alleged collision, the speed at which the lorcha could have gone over the ground at the time and under the conditions given in evidence, the distances, between different points in the locality, and the distance at which a lorcha coming in the direction described by the plaintiffs' witness could have been seen from the ferry-boat.

Captain JOHN P. ROBERTS was then called and questioned as to the carrying capacity of a ferry-boat of the supposed dimensions of that alleged to have been run down by the *Chinling*, and on other points. He said in effect that a Chinese boat thirty feet long by six feet wide by two and a half feet deep, as described by the defendant's Counsel, could scarcely have carried 100 piculs of wheat and nine persons; but a boat thirty-five feet long and seven broad, as described by the plaintiff's Counsel, might have done so. He said that he had seen the *Chinling*, and had noticed the Chinese characters on the stern. For a person struggling in the water to have read those characters he must have been within ten or fifteen feet of the rudder.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT then read the evidence, taken before the hearing, of Captain Gorschalcky and other witnesses for the defence, all of whom deposed that the *Chinling* was not in collision on the 12th or any other day in September, 1882.

The Court then adjourned till the next morning, at 10 o'clock.

15th October.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT was sorry to say that the Chinese witnesses whom he had been expecting from Wuhu had not arrived yet. He called

TSAO DA-EE, a cook and a boy in the employ of Mr. Schofield, proprietor of the *Chinling*, who proceeded to give an account of a journey he made in company with his master to Wade Island, and some conversations which took place there between his master and himself and a shroff on the one hand, and the widow of the owner of the ferry-boat, the wife of Pao Liu Ching, and a lighthouse keeper on the other hand.

Mr. WILKINSON objected to the witness retelling these conversations on the ground that they were not evidence.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said he had intended to call this witness after having called the widow of the owner of the ferry-boat and

the other witnesses whom he was expecting; but his Lordship appeared anxious that the case should be proceeded with as far as possible before he renewed his application for an adjournment. Mr. Wainwright again asked that the case might be adjourned to give time for his witnesses to arrive. He repeated that the evidence which he believed these witnesses—one of whom was a plaintiff—would give was that Ching Chang Ho and Pao Liu Ching, two of the plaintiffs and principal witnesses, were not in the ferry-boat at the time it was run down, and that some of the persons on whose behalf claims were put in had no existence.

His LORDSHIP did not see sufficient ground for granting an adjournment. He said even if Mr. Wainwright proved the points he had adduced, that would only affect the amount of the damages, which would be considered at a later stage of the proceedings.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said surely the evidence to which he had alluded would affect his Lordship's opinion as to the value of the evidence brought forward by the plaintiffs.

His LORDSHIP said he was not prepared to admit that it would; it would only affect the question of the amount of the damages. All he had to consider at the present stage was whether the ferry-boat in question had been run down by the *Chinling*, and if he were satisfied of that he should make a decree, and the question of the amount of damages would come later. He was fairly satisfied that the ferry-boat had been run down, and the only question at present was whether the *Chinling* sunk it.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT submitted that if he proved that there had been a conspiracy, that the case had been manufactured, and that the witnesses had been committing perjury, the case ought to be dismissed. He thought that even if some injury had been inflicted, persons who sought to establish an exaggerated claim by perjury were not entitled to any redress from the Court.

His LORDSHIP said even if Mr. Wainwright proved all he had stated it would not amount to a conspiracy. Supposing Mr. Wainwright succeeded in showing that Ching Chang Ho had worked up the case, that would not justify his Lordship in refusing the just claims of plaintiffs who were proved to have suffered by the collision.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT said his case was that the evidence adduced by the plaintiffs was a tissue of falsehoods. But apart from this he argued that as he had taken steps in good time to procure the attendance of these witnesses, and as the delay in their arrival arose from circumstances beyond his control, and beyond the control of the Court—that is, by reason of the obstructive action of the Taotai of Wuhu—he was entitled to an adjournment.

His LORDSHIP repeated that he did not consider the evidence for the production of which Mr. Wainwright asked for an adjournment was material to the point which he had to decide upon at this stage.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT then called

RICHARD SCHOFIELD, proprietor of the lorcha *Chinling*, who stated that he was at Wade Island on the 8th September, and that he there had interviews with the widow of Pao Liu Tsang, the wife of Pao Liu Ching, and a light-house keeper who had already given evidence, in anticipation of the hearing, as to having seen the ferry-boat run down by a lorcha. The witness stated that while he was at Wade Island he measured a portion of the ferry-boat, which was on shore, and that the greatest breadth was 5 ft. 10 in., the depth 2 ft. 4 in., and the probable length of the boat when entire, 28 ft.

The case was then adjourned till the next morning, at 10 o'clock.

16th October.

LUI KWONG-TAI, keeper of the light-house on Wade Island, in the Customs service, was called as a witness for the defence. Previous to the hearing he had given evidence, *de bene esse*, on behalf of the plaintiffs. He said he did not actually see the collision, but he heard the shouting and went out of his light-house and saw the men in the water. He saw the ferry-boat start before the collision; there were eight men in her, Wang Sze-jung, a shop-keeper, Tsau Tze-lung, a farmer, Pao Liu-tsai, a Taoist priest, Sung Da-fa, low-dah of the boat, Pao Liu-tsung, owner of the ferry-boat, and three others whom he did not know. Pao Ling-ching, brother of the owner of the boat, and one of the plaintiffs, did not go in the boat that day. Three of the men were drowned—Pao Liu-tsung, Pao Liu-tsai, and Sung Da-fa. Pao Liu-tsung left a widow, but no children, Lung Da-fa left neither widow nor children and Pao Liu-tsai left a widow and seven children. Pao Liu-ching stayed at home smoking opium; but after the collision he went out in a boat to try and save some of the people. The witness further stated that two of the plaintiffs' witnesses who had given evidence that they were in the boat at the time of the collision were not there at all. He did not know the plaintiff Ching Chang-ho, and he could not say whether he was in the ferry-boat at the time of the collision; he might have been one of the three men in the boat whom witness did not know.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT asked that Ching Chang-ho, who was in Court, might be ordered out. He believed the witness was afraid of Ching Chang-ho.

Mr. WILKINSON objected. Ching Chang-ho was a plaintiff, and was entitled to be present.

His LORDSHIP said he did not see any reason to think there had been any intimidation, and Ching Chang Po was allowed to remain in Court.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT then renewed his application for an adjournment. He said he would go over his arguments again; but he rested his application on the ground that he had taken steps in reasonable time to procure the attendance of the Chinese witnesses whom he was expecting from Wuhu, and they had been prevented from arriving by circumstances over which he had no control.

Mr. WILKINSON opposed the application on the ground that Mr. Wainwright had not taken steps in reasonable time to procure the attendance of these witnesses. He pointed out that the first evidence in this case was taken in June; it had therefore been dragging on for nearly four months. After some argument.

His LORDSHIP said he did not see that the evidence which Mr. Wainwright expected these witnesses to give would affect the question he had at present to consider, which was simply whether the ferry-boat had been run down by the *Chinling*. He therefore refused Mr. Wainwright's application.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT then addressed the Court on behalf of the defendants. He argued that it lay with the plaintiffs to prove that the ferry-boat had been run down, and that it had been run down by the *Chinling*. He contended that the evidence he had produced showed that whereas the running-down, if there was a running down, occurred between 9 and 10 o'clock, the *Chinling* could not have reached the scene of the collision until 12 o'clock. The evidence which the plaintiffs had produced to prove that no other lorcha passed there that day was insufficient, and it was quite possible that it was not a lorcha at all but a Chinese vessel which ran down the ferry-boat. There was a great temptation to bring the claim against a foreign vessel—or at least against a British-owned vessel, because the Chinese were becoming well aware that it was

easier to recover damages in a British Court.

His LORDSHIP did not think Mr. Wainwright was justified in assuming that it was easier to recover damages in a British than in a native Court, or that the Chinese preferred to bring the cases against foreign-owned ships.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT thought he had been paying a compliment to the British Court. Continuing, he argued that the case had been got up from beginning to end. The evidence of the last witness showed that some of the principal witnesses for the plaintiffs were not in the boat at the time of collision at all, and their evidence was false. The lighthouse keeper was an entirely independent witness, and his evidence was worthy of belief. Mr. Wainwright then traced the course of the *Chinling* on the chart, and called attention to the times given in the log and the distances from place to place given by Mr. Mobsby in his evidence in order to show that the *Chinling* could not have reached the scene of the collision until two hours after it occurred. He pointed out that many of the statements made by the plaintiffs' witnesses—as to the distance of the *Chinling* from the ferry-boat when they first saw her, and as other points—were proved by the evidence of the charts, and by that of the pilots whom he had called, to be impossible; and he contended that the evidence of the witnesses who had deposed that no other lorcha passed that day was as weak as it could possibly be. The Captain swore positively that he never heard of any collision or saw any marks of one. He had called three witnesses from the ship, and two of them adhered to their story that there had been no collision; and though the third was somehow induced to turn round and say there was the collision, he contended that this man's evidence was unworthy of belief. He contended that on the whole the evidence rendered it, to say the least, extremely improbable that the ferry-boat was run down by the *Chinling*, and then even if there was a doubt on the subject, his client was entitled to the benefit of it.

Mr. WILKINSON then replied for the plaintiffs. He admitted that there were discrepancies between the evidence he had adduced and the pleadings; but he pointed out that a Chinese ferry-boat was not in the position of a foreign vessel having all the necessary instruments and appliances for taking accurate observations, and he contended that the discrepancies were immaterial. He would not waste his Lordship's time by attempting to prove that the ferry-boat was run down, because that was admitted by the evidence of the defendant. The descriptions which his witnesses had given of the vessel which ran down the ferry-boat showed that it was a foreign, and not a native vessel, and he contended that the evidence which he had adduced was sufficient to identify it with the *Chinling*. The evidence of Wang Teen-tui, the sailor on board the *Chinling* who had deposed to there having been a collision was, he argued, worthy of full evidence although it contradicted to evidence which he had given before. This man's evidence showed that, the collision having occurred, the Captain felt that the first thing to do was to save the men in the water. But the lordship said "no," and it was well known that the master of one of these lorchas was not master in the same sense as the master of an ordinary ship. He continued on his way, and then when he received notice that three lives had been lost, he found himself in the position not of an ordinary defendant, but of a criminal, having probably laid himself open to a charge of manslaughter.

Mr. WAINWRIGHT pointed out that the Captain was a German subject.

Mr. WILKINSON said he was aware of this,—but he believed that the laws of other European countries were not more

merciful to those who caused death than those of other countries. Finding himself in this position, it was probable, Mr. Wilkinson thought, that Captain Gorschalky took steps to screen himself such as even a man of stronger moral nature than they could expect to find in the Capt. of a lorcha might have taken. He contended that the evidence showed that the ferry-boat had been run down by the *Chinling*, and although the collision might not have taken place at the exact time stated in the pleadings, this did not debar his clients from recovering.

His LORDSHIP reserved judgment.

Miscellaneous.

CHINESE NOTES.

The Han dynasty, which succeeded that of Ts'in, was as much a feudal sovereignty as that of the Chows which Ts'in overthrew. The feudatories now became 郡國, or palatinates, and each one's oath of allegiance was stowed away in the (so to speak) hanaper, [匱], which was deposited (so to speak) in the Chinese Westminster Abbey, [宗廟]. The princes were promoted or transferred from one principality to the other almost at the caprice of the sovereign, and treason was under the first few sovereigns visited with attainder, [逮], and (so to speak) corruption of blood, [夷三族].

We hope to gradually unravel the principle under which such words as, for instance, 較 are unaccountably "to be read Koh," and so on. In the case of other words, Koh and Kiao are often interchangeable sounds. In the Foochow dialect 覺 is pronounced Kawk (vulgar Kawk), and according to the (so to speak) "Sandhi" of that dialect, (as explained in our papers upon the Foochow dialect), this Kawk or Kawk becomes Kouk, (vulgar Kōk), in combination with other words. Moreover, the final k is dropped, as in the case of Sanskrit Sandhi. For instance

覺悟 should be Kawk ngwo (or Kawk ngwo), but the true way to pronounce the combination is kou ngwo (or kō ngwo); that is, the tone is "gunad" from an entering tone to an even tone; the diphthong "takes vriddhi," and the final k is changed to "anusvāra." On the other hand in the combination 知覺, the final kawk or kawk (finals never modifying) is plainly kawk or kawk. Now, (apart from the second reading, kau or chiao in another sense which this character has etymologically,) in Pekingese it is pronounced chio² chio² and chiao² all in the sense of to "perceive." And it will be noticed that, wherever the tao and io or iio or iieh are alternative in Pekingese, [e. g. 角畧學 etc.], it is always in cases when in Foochow the syllable would be auk or auk, according to series of tone. It will also be noticed that the Pekingese incline to say chi chio, t'ao-liieh, wēn hsiu, whereas they tend to say, on the contrary, chiao tsui, liau siang, hsiiao hui, in the combinations 隨角韜畧文學角嘴畧想學曾. Valuable confirmatory evidence is not wanting from other dialects, but the above is perhaps enough of a new subject for the stomach to digest at once. It is not impossible that the whole theory of 叶韻 may be found to resolve itself into rhythm; and, in order that the words gūna sandhi, vriddhi, &c. may not pall upon the digestive organs, we beg to state that they mean in effect nothing more terrible than "rhythm."

It has been observed in Chinese Notes that the 戶部 always seems to have precedence. The explanation comes from Chinese history, which says that 農為大事故後稷為大官.

Primogeniture (as to dignities) must have prevailed from the earliest times in China, for we find King Hūen B.C. 800 blamed for nominating the younger son of the Lord of Lu as heir, [世子], instead of the elder. It is not stated whether both were by the same mother, but the commentator describes the act as 廢嫡子. King Yu is also blamed for 以妾為妻.

Any evidence is valuable which connects history with national phenomena. In modern times earthquakes have been more common in Shensi and Kansu than elsewhere. An earthquake is recorded in the year 770 B.C. during the reign of King Yu, who, in consequence, moved further east.

Amongst the Canton troops are two camps, [營], of well paid drilled men at 高州, each camp consisting of 500.

A case is mentioned in a recent Gazette where an offender at Canton who had been sent to Peking for trial was remitted to Sz-chuan because one of his accomplices was there, too far away for the Peking Board to wait until he was forwarded. This is a surprise, and conflicts with all the notions of a "venue" which we have hitherto understood the Chinese to affect.

The ceremony of "going out of mourning," [釋服], for the late Empress is just being performed at Peking, at a cost of Tls. 2,000. Fifty thousand (sham) ingots of silver, 45,000 sheets of paper money, 20,000 sheets of coloured [五色] paper, nine sheep, thirteen bottles of wine, exposed on twenty-five tables, will be consumed on this occasion. The ceremony takes place at the 明樓前. The great point in Manchu sacrifices is "tables."

The Peking Contingent remains at Tls. 7,000,000 a year. For 1883 the Canton salt-tax, [課], contributes Tls. 200,000; and Tls. 50,000 more from the interest fund [裕息]. The salt-tax also contributes Tls. 50,000 to the Household. It is a remarkable thing that Ho-nan, Shen-si, Hu-nan, Shan-tung, and Chih-li do not get their contributions published in the Gazette.

By law, persons who contribute Tls. 1,000 and over to public needs are entitled to a complimentary tablet marked "delighteth in good and loveth to give." It does not appear who pays for the tablet.

We have alluded elsewhere to the bartering of girls from Szchuan for sale as prostitutes. The slavers are called 國戶 by the Governor of Hupeh.

Miscellaneous Intelligence.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. Newchwang, for Tientsin—Mr. Wrio.

Per str. Fungshun, for Tientsin—Hon. Russell Young and servant, and Dr. Atterbury.

Per str. Changchow, for Newchwang—Three Sisters of Charity.

Per str. *Yungching*, for Jenchuan (Corea)—Messrs. G. Fischer and servant, E. Jacobi, Chun Pat-nan and servant, and Fan Kwei-wun and servant.

Per str. *Fuyew*, for Hongkong—Miss Rivers, and Mr. W. Rae.

Per str. *Kiangpiau*, for Ningpo—Mr. Jas. Buchanan.

Per str. *Pekin*, for Chinkiang—Rev. W. C. and Mrs. Longden. For Hankow—Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Brewer and three children, Rev. and Mrs. Geo. B. Crews, Rev. Spencer Lewis, and Mr. R. Horne Boyd.

Per str. *Pautah*, for Chefoo—Mr. John Knowles.

Per str. *Bacshin*, for Foochow—Mr. A. K. Travers.

Per str. *Tunsin*, for Ningpo—Mr. H. E. Wadman, Ven. Archdeacon Moule, Rev. and Mrs. A. Elvin and two children.

Per str. *Tokio Maru*, for Nagasaki—Mr. Nelson. For Kobe—Rev. and Mrs. A. Dowley and three children, Messrs. Jas. Mackey, Gihvao Gifu and A. Michie. For Yokohama—Messrs. F. Moudin, Helgo Melbye and F. Stokes.

Per str. *Deccan*, for Marseilles—Mrs. Maclean, Miss Maclean, Messrs. C. Jantzen, E. Gammon and G. R. Wingrove. For London—Mr. J. H. Scott's two children and nurse, Messrs. W. W. King and Symon Leslie. For Singapore—His Highness the Maharajah of Johore, Mr. Hole, Inohi Mahomed, Mahomed Sallay and six servants. For Bombay—Mr. H. D. Camajee. For Hongkong—Messrs. H. Keller, A. Cunard, F. Collins, J. H. Scott, C. W. Everard, A. F. da Silva, A. M. Lowdon, A. G. Wood and servant, and Col. Ike Austin.

Per str. *Shanghai*, for Chinkiang—Rev. W. J. and Mrs. Hunnex. For Hankow—Mrs. Ripley, and Mr. J. B. MacIntyre.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Dillon and family, Mrs. Dodwell and family, Messrs. C. Cromie, C. Dowdall and H. R. Smith.

Per str. *Shanghai*, from Chinkiang—Mr. C. J. Rawlinson.

Per str. *Neuchwang*, from Tientsin—Dr. White.

Per str. *Fungshun*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. J. W. Anderson.

Per str. *Sual*, from Chinkiang—Mr. Duff.

Per str. *Rohilla*, from London—Mr. and Mrs. Williams and two children, Miss Horne, Messrs. Dick, Starkey and Stephenson. From Colombo—Mr. J. B. Moluetye. From Singapore—Miss Ripley, Major Coffey, and Mr. M. E. Bowen. From Hongkong—Mr. and Miss J. L. Pereira, Mr. and Mrs. Rocher, Messrs. Vaucher, T. Thompson and F. Salla.

Per str. *Tunsin*, from Ningpo—Mr. F. Kleinwachter.

Per str. *Sin Nanxing*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Allen.

Per str. *Glenelg*, from London and Hongkong—Messrs. Dunne and Armstrong.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Kiukiang—Mrs. Jamieson and family, Bishop and Mrs. Merrill.

Per str. *El Dorado*, from Tientsin and Chefoo—Mr. and Mrs. Mackenzie.

Per str. *Kiangpiau*, from Ningpo—Three Sisters of Mercy.

Per str. *Nagoya Maru*, from Japan—Mrs. Adam Lind, child and amah, Mr. and Mrs. Blautschli, two children and European maid, Dr. and Mrs. Zocharis, two children and amah, Dr. and Mrs. Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Judd, Mrs. Thomas, child and amah, Mrs. Bannerman, Messrs. C. H. Fearon, W. J. Binney, W. J. Busy, J. Richard, Maximilian Slevogt and servant, Go and servant, C. Abegg, E. Christie, Theodore Dettrich and E. Bastien.

Per str. *Achilles*, from London—Mr. and Mrs. Brewer and three children, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Percival. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

Per str. *Ningpo*, from Korean Ports via Nagasaki—Messrs. Howe, Boyd, Ottomeier, Cooper, Wennmohs and Cummins.

Per str. *Pautah*, from Tientsin—Miss E. J. Newton, and Mr. J. Rhein (Netherlands Legation.) From Chefoo—Miss M. Berry and Miss Lawrence.

Per str. *Tunsin*, from Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. Drew and three children.

Per str. *Anadyr*, from Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Rondall and infant, Misses Daurand and Butland, Mr. and Mrs. Bonabeau, infant and nurse, Messrs. E. Glise, Seigfried, Ramon, Joseph and Hoeflich, Marques de Medina (Spanish Ambassador), and six Sisters of Charity. From Hongkong—Messrs. E. T. Holwill and servants, A. Fonseca, J. H. C. Gunther, G. Baux, J. Reynell, and Poeschi Troupe.

Per str. *Amoy*, from Hongkong—Messrs. Siep and Lauch.

Per str. *Tunsin*, from Ningpo—Mr. A. K. Travers.

Per str. *Poochi*, from Tientsin—Messrs. Atterbury, Young, Rae and Scott and family.

Per str. *Kiangpiau*, from Ningpo—Capt. Morse.

Per str. *Taku*, from Foochow—Dr. Brereton, Messrs. Bidwell and O'Rourke.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Thermometer in shade.		Hygrometer at 9 A.M.		Wind.	Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	8 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.		
Oct. 11	30.26	70.0	78.0	68.0	66.0	62.0	0 z.	..
12	30.24	67.0	78.0	67.0	66.0	63.0	0 z.	..
13	30.16	68.0	79.5	62.0	65.5	64.0	2 North	..
14	30.16	66.5	76.0	57.0	66.0	63.0	0 z.	..
15	30.17	67.0	78.0	50.5	66.5	62.5	1 East	..
16	30.13	68.0	81.0	55.0	67.5	64.0	1 South	..
17	30.24	67.0	83.0	65.0	66.5	65.0	0 z.	..

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b. blue sky; c. clouds; f. fog; h. hail; l. lightning; m. misty (hazy); o. overcast (Gull) r. rain; s. snow; t. thunder; x. calm. Force from 1 to 21 estimated.

Advertisements.

SHANGHAI DISTRICT.

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS, No. 19.

Buoyage of the
Langshan Crossing.

NOTICE is hereby given that, on or about the 2nd proximo, the Langshan Buoy [No. 13 in the List of the Chinese Lighthouses, Light-vessels, Buoys and Beacons for 1883] will be shifted far enough to the South-westward of its present position to guide vessels clear of the shoal which is making out between it and the Vine Point Lower Buoy; also that if any of the other buoys on the Langshan Crossing can be more advantageously placed than at present to mark the Channel, they will be shifted at the same time.

No change will be made in the Color of any of the buoys.

A. M. BISBEE,
Harbour Master.

Approved:

GEO. B. GLOVER,
Commissioner of Customs.

Custom House,

Shanghai, 27th Sept., 1883. 653 200

PRICE OF THE NORTH-CHINA HERALD and S. C. & C. GAZETTE.—Per Annum, Taels 12; Six Months, Taels 6.50. Three Months, 3.50—all payable in advance. Credit price, Tls. 13.15 per Annum; Subscriptions will be considered as renewed unless notice to the contrary be given before the expiry of the current term.

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SUBSCRIPTIONS received, and Single Copies sold, by Messrs. GEORGE STREET & Co.,

30, Cornhill,

LONDON (E.C.)

OPIUM

RETURN FOR WEEK ENDED 29TH SEPTEMBER, 1883.

IMPORTED	MALWA.		PATNA.		BENARES.		PERSIAN.					
	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.	Chests.	Weight.				
Imported and stored on board Receiving Vessels	32	32.00	176	211.20	..	..	..	..				
Returned from shore on board R. Vessels.....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Imported and transhipped for re-exportation without being stored on board Receiving Vessels or landed	12	12.00	1	1.20	..	..	..	..				
Landed direct	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..				
Total.....	44	44.00	177	212.40	..	..	..	..				
Landed from Receiving Vessels and intended chiefly for Local consumption	18	18.00	88	105.60	97	116.40	4	4.00				
RE-EXPORTED FROM BOARD RECEIVING VESSELS:—												
Description.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Total.
	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.	Chts. Wght.
Malwa..	180 180.00	86 86.00	28 28.00	55 55.50	27 27.00	68 68.00	14 14.00	72 72.00		10 10.00		530 530.50
Patna.....	13 15.60			20 24.00	1 1.20		2 2.40	5 6.00				41 49.20
Benares ..	20 24.00				8 3.60		1 1.20	5 6.00				29 34.50
Persian ..	1 1.00				1 1.00		1 1.00	1 1.00			1 1.00	5 5.00
Turkey ..												
Total..	214 220.00	86 86.00	28 28.00	75 79.50	32 32.80	58 58.00	18 18.00	83 85.00		10 10.00	1 1.00	605 619.50

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 16th October, 1883.

There is scarcely any change to note in the position of the Chinese banks, which, from want of money or credit, have scarcely been able to do any business during the week. There have been rumours of failures among them, but all that is known with certainty is that the position of several is very critical. The Shansi bankers will, it is understood, allow the bulk of their funds to remain in the hands of the local concerns for the present. The China Merchants' Company, which has been in great want of money for some time, and from which considerable amounts of the bankers deposits with which they have hitherto carried on their business are said to be about to be withdrawn, has, we understand, obtained assistance from Li Hung-chang, and possibly from other quarters, to a considerable extent, enough probably for the present. But the affairs of this and other native companies are not flourishing, and, as we pointed out lately, some of them are likely to collapse. So many high officials have patronized the China Merchants' Co. and the natives have boasted so much about it, that it is likely to receive support, at the expense of the people of China, for some time yet.

PIECE GOODS.—Before the last homeward mail hence was well away the stringency in the native money market had somewhat relaxed. But the relaxation was not the result of any influx of silver into the place; it was more owing to an extension of time for payment of loans. Consequently the opinion obtains that the evil day is only postponed for a little, and the moneyed bankers are very careful as to whom they grant accommodation.

In regard to our Piece Goods trade, however, the cause of the prevailing stagnation is to be sought for elsewhere than in our native banking system. The dealers have syces at their command sufficient for their requirements; but there is an absence of encouragement from head-quarters, and until positive orders come business must continue depressed, unless, indeed, speculation set in, and considering the late telegrams, advising a further and more decided rise in MANCHESTER, more unlikely things have happened in times past. But apart from this chance there is a growing feeling that the existing depression will not last much longer, and the natives now fix its limit at a week to ten days hence.

Grey Shirtings.—8½-lbs.—Inquiry fitful throughout; business restricted to about 17,000 pieces in private; no material change in prices, and the market dull and weak at the close. The native merchants seem to be taking more notice of the home telegrams alluded to above than they usually do of such advices, and had they any assurance that they would not be "cornered" for money at prompt dates, or that they may not be disappointed in their expectations of an early demand from the interior, they would very likely make a "plunge." But they have no certainty on these points, and thus they content themselves with supplying their passing wants only.

7-lbs.—Sales about 2,000 pieces of Tripod and Triple Tea Caddy at £1.25 per piece.

6-lbs. & 10-lbs.—Neglected.

11-lbs. & 12-lbs.—A very limited trade and at irregular prices.

White Shirtings.—Barely 1,000 pieces 64-reeds have changed hands, and the bulk of them consists of ordinary, or 14×16 count, at £1.50 per piece. The daily reports have it that the *Tai-ping Eagle*, 64-reed, has been sold at £1.80, but there has been no sale of the chop for a length of time past. Of 72-reeds, only 150 pieces of *Silver Sycee* at £1.90 per piece have been published.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—Quietness has continued to govern the market, and the aggregate of sales—although rather larger than that returned last week, being about 14,000 pieces against 10,000—is still small for the season of the year. Prices are again the turn in favour of buyers, who have no difficulty in finding as much as they require at the hands of holders;—they are returned as £1.01 for *Red Dragon*, £1.04 for *Flying Horse and Gold Phoenix*, £1.14 for *Dragon and Phoenix*, £1.22½ for *Eye*, and *Green Beggar*, £1.25 for *X X Blue Eagle*, and £1.40 for *Blue Dragon and Flag*. In 6 or 8-lbs. there has been scarcely any business published.

Drills.—English.—The demand has rather moderated, but common qualities are still saleable and last week's quotations have been maintained. Sales 6,000 pieces. Stocks of sound cloth are now much reduced, and should the enquiry continue the chances are in favour of better rates. Even the natives are entertaining the idea that prices will soon be raised upon them and are exercising their minds on the question of the laying down cost of fresh supplies. In the American import very little has been done,* and nothing whatever in the Dutch.

* To-day 300 pieces of *Woman and Wheel* have been sold at £2.80 cash.

Jeans.—Scarcely any business to report. P.M.C.J., American, is on offer at £2.30, but the chop can be sold only in retail lots at that figure.

Sheetings.—English Sheetings have not been dealt in, but about 12,000 pieces of American (*Indian Head* chiefly) have been settled, the price, however, showing a slight concession to buyers. The quotations now are £2.92½ for *Indian Head*, £2.80 for *Appleton*, *Lion* and £2.72 for M.M.

Fancy Cottons.—As a class these have not received much notice. Some business has been done in *Turkey Red Cambrics* and *T-Cloths*, but full particulars have not been disclosed. Prices however seem to be weaker, and holders are willing sellers. There has been rather more doing in *Velvets* again, the settlements reported adding up over 500 pieces. Ordinary *Lie Woman* is still quoted £0.13½ a £0.13 per yard. Low numbers of *Cotton Yarn* have been asked for by the northern dealers, but the sales have been trifling. For the same destination a few *Italian's* and *Cotton Lastings* have been placed; but this department generally continues in an unsatisfactory state.

Woolens.—Cheap *Camlets* have continued in demand, and holders have been able to command better rates than were current this day week. The goods are required for Army clothing and presumably political economy has suggested the idea to the authorities that a soldier may as well die in a cheap as in a dear jacket, for they do not take readily to the higher classed material. *Scarlet Long Ellis* and *Scarlet Spanish Stripes* have likewise been wanted, and nearly 2,500 pieces of the former and upwards of 300 pieces of the latter have changed ownership. For *Lastings*, *Cloths* and *Lustres*, however, there has been little or no enquiry, and no business has been reported in them.

Camlets quotations are:—*Scarlet*, £8.25/32½ for *Soldier*; £9.25 for *LLL Orange*, £9.00 for *Dark Gentian*, £8.75 for *Light Gentian*, £8.00 for *Black*, &c. Sales—600 pieces.

Long Ellis.—H.D.B. *Scarlet* £4.75, V £4.77½, and U.U. £4.80 per piece.

Spanish Stripes.—£0.47½ and £0.48½ for B.T.L. *Scarlet* and *Black*, and £0.45 for *Stag*.

Metals.—Mr. A. Bielfeld says in his report:—During the last week business has been almost at a standstill and extreme dullness is prevailing in all branches of the trade. LEAD—Transactions from first hands have not transpired, and business has been limited to retail sales among Chinese. Quotations are nominal. NAILROD IRON—Nothing of importance has occurred in the position of this article, the trade remains slack and prices must be quoted nominally weaker. Sales are:—6,000 bundles damaged Belgian at auction at £1.70 to £1.72½, 4,000 bundles Belgian at £1.98, 2,000 bundles Rogers at £2.05. BAR IRON—A small parcel English has been placed at £2.07½. The demand is very limited. PIG IRON—Remains firm at quotations. 50 tons Cleveland have been sold to arrive at £21. OLD IRON—The demand continues moderate in the extreme and resales among dealers are reported to be very unsatisfactory. 50 tons scrap have been placed at £1.55 and a small lot hoop iron was sold at £1.20. TINPLATES—Firm at quotations. STEEL—In moderate demand. STRAITS TIN—Quotations have remained unchanged. Sales are: 50 slabs Foong-hing, 250 slabs Foc-chok, 250 slabs Sok-kong. COPPER AND YELLOW METAL SHEATHING—Copper sheathing is wanted at quotations. Of Japan several parcels have arrived, but prices asked for the same do not seem to meet buyers views. IRON WIRE—Sales are reported of 200 casks No. 13/15 at £3.40, No. 17/20 at £3.70, and 25 casks No. 16/25 at £3.85. QUICKSILVER—50 flasks American have been sold at £43.50.

Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Bielfeld's circular:—MATCHES.—The demand shows no improvement. 20 cases brilliant Vienna found a buyer at £19.00. WINDOW GLASS.—A sale of 2,000 cases good assortment at £2.40 is reported to have been made some three weeks ago. NEEDLES.—The demand has been limited to paper boxes. Sales are:—50 cases No. 1/5 blue eyed sharps in paper boxes at £30.00, 15 cases No. 1/5 gold eyed sharps in paper boxes at £35.00, 10 cases No. 1/5 gold eyed sharps in paper boxes at £34.00.

ANILINE DYES.—A small business has been done at about previous rates. Sales include:—20,000 bottles ea. 2 oz. scarlet, Pheasant chop at £0.10½, 1,500 bottles ea. 2 oz. blue, Carriage chop at £0.18, 8,000 tins ea. 8 oz. scarlet, 2 boys chop at £0.40, 4,000 bottles ea. 2 oz. magenta, Flower chop at 0.12½, 2,500 bottles ea. 2 oz. magenta, Elephant chop at £0.14, 1,000 tins ea. 1 catty magenta Eagle chop at £1.10, 1,800 bottles ea. 2 oz. erythrosine, H chop at £0.05, 2,000 bottles ea. 2 oz. nopaline, 2 Men chop at £0.20½.

Kerosene Oil.—Business has not improved. Sales do not exceed 3,000 cases at £1.30. Stocks about 340,000 cases.

Opium.—Closing quotations are:—Malwa (new) £407, (old) £417; Patna £425; Benares £408.

Chinese Market.—In this as in every department of business great flatness has prevailed during the week, and in several articles quotations are lower. SUGAR—Sales reported are about 3,000 piculs white and 3,800 piculs brown—Swatow kinds being lower. PEPPER—is about 3 mace per picul cheaper and little doing in it. SANDALWOOD—Sales 800 piculs South Sea, 150 piculs Timor, 50 piculs Malabar. COTTON is unchanged; little passing. HIDES—Sales 600 piculs. FLINTS—Sales 150 piculs.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—Settlements since last report amount to about 3,000 bales, including 2,000 of the old silk which has been held so long by the Mandarin speculator, half of which goes forward by to-day's mail and the remainder next week. It was rumoured at one time that this 2,000 bales of silk had been sold in London, and the price was stated to have been 16s. 6d. per lb. for chop No. 4's, but that appears now to be doubtful, and no particulars of the transaction have been disclosed. The market for other silks has been weak. Stock—24,300 bales.

Settlements include—TSATLEE—Red Pagoda and Woman at \$353½, Blue Elephant at \$377½, Buffalo No. 3 at \$368½, Almond, and Whale at \$362½, SSS at \$360, SSSS at \$345, Z-bra at \$360, Dancing Bear No. 4 at \$357½, Bird Chun-ling at \$355, Yu Ki-ling at \$352½, Gold Ki-ling and Siebing Quang-fong at \$345. Common at \$320 to \$332. KAHINGS—White at \$340 to \$360, Green at \$340. **Tea.**—BLACK.—There is no change in market rates. Settlements 12,188 half-chests, including Ningchow at \$12 to \$17½, Oopack, Oonam and Oanfa at \$11½ to \$16, Kutoan at \$23, Hohows at \$11½ to \$12½ and Tomaquan at \$17½ to \$19. Settlements to date, 303,000 half-chests, against 282,000 and siftings, 2,231 against 8,766 at same time last year. Stock 34,660 half-chests against 120,000 at same time in 1882.

GREEN.—Pingsueys are as at last advices, viz., low grades are dull of sale, and fine and finest in moderate demand at former prices. Of Country teas, fine and finest have continued in brisk demand at fully former rates, common to medium are not so much in request and are less firmly held but are not any cheaper. Transactions have been—Pingsueys 977 half-chests and 1,441 boxes at \$11.10 a 25, and 14,941 half-chests Country teas—Fychows at \$16 a 18½, Moyunes at \$22 a 38, and Treenkals at \$23 a 34½ picul.

Stock—8,976 half-chests and 31,000 boxes Pingsuey against 26,500 half-chests and 29,200 boxes; 13,650 half-chests Fychow and Moyune against 92,000 half-chests; 406 half-chests Shanghai packed—1,120 half-chests same time last year.

Exchange.—Rates have not varied during the week there having been very little business doing. The money market among the Chinese has been stringent and rates of interest high, owing to considerable distrust of the position of several of the native banks and trading houses. Quotations since last mail on London—Bank rates—telegraph transfers 5:0½d. per tael, sight 5s. 1d., bank drafts, 4 months' sight 5s. 1½d., credits, 4 months' sight 5s. 2d. and 6 months' sight 5s. 2½d., bills with document 4 months' sight 5s. 2½d. and 6 months' 5s. 2½d. On Paris, document, 4 months' sight, fr. 6 53, document, 6 months' sight, fr. 6 56. On Calcutta, transfers 307. On Bombay, transfers 307. On Hongkong, bank, demand 27½ discount.

Shares.—A number of stocks have been dealt in during the week but the total amount of business done has not been large. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank shares have been sold—for cash at 190, 191 and 189 premium and exchange 73, and 191½ prem. and exchange 72—for 31st instant at 192½, for 31st January at 205½, 203½ and 201. Insurance shares have been placed as follows:—North-Chinas at \$1,500 and 1,450, Cantons at \$102½ and 105, China Traders at \$70, China Fires at \$75 and 73.60, Hongkong Fires at \$350. Birt's Wharf shares have been sold at \$49 and 49½, Waterworks at \$30, cum new issue, and buyer to pay all future calls, and at \$28, Co-operative Cargo-boats at \$75, Selangor Tin Mining at \$124 and 124½, Perak Sugar at \$25, and Footuag Dock at \$110.

AUCTION SALES.

COTTON GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—8½-lbs.—8,400 pieces; at (on 10th instant, E-wo), \$1.62½ for double Blue Tea Caddy; (on 11th instant, Yuen-fong), \$1.16½/10½ for Two Man, \$1.16½/17 for House, \$1.27½ for Blue Britannia, \$1.44½ for Painted Britannia, \$1.52½/51½ for Five Brothers; and (to-day, Kin-ming), \$1.28½ for Green, \$1.29½/29 for Blue, and \$1.38½/33½ Red Lion C.P.H.

7-lbs.—850 pieces; \$1.23½ for Red Tea Caddy, and at \$1.09/09½ for Blue Britannia.

6-lbs.—1,000 pieces Two Man at \$0.92½ per piece.

9½-lbs. a 10-lbs.—2,800 pieces; at \$1.65½/65 for Black Tea Caddy, \$1.69½ for Blue Britannia, \$1.82½/81½ for Red Britannia, and \$2.13 for Painted Britannia.

White Shirtings—64-reed—1,800 pieces at \$1.50½/51½ for Blue Light House, and \$1.59 for Red Star, 30-inch, undressed.

72-reed and higher—2,180 pieces; at \$1.99 for O., \$2.23 for A.I., \$2.42½ for M.O., \$3.80½ for E.F., and \$1.87 for Blue Light House.

T-Cloths—7-lbs.—3,450 pieces; at \$1.03½/03½ for Green Dragon, \$1.13½/13½ for Red Tea Caddy, \$0.99 for Blue Britannia, and \$1.12/12½ for Painted Britannia.

8-lbs.—300 pieces; Blue Tea Caddy at \$1.41 per piece.

Drills—English.—270 pieces; at \$2.14½ for Stag, \$2.31½/32½ for Britannia, and \$2.44 for Fish and Dragon; and (sea damaged) American, 1,560 pieces at \$2.51½/50½ for P.M.C., \$2.39½/52½ for M.M., and \$2.38 and \$2.40/41½ for Boot Cock and S.M.D.

Sheetings—American (sea damaged) 440 pieces at \$2.70 for Appleton Lion, \$2.51½/50½ for Eagle A., &c.

Jenns—English.—360 pieces Peacock at \$1.16½/16½ per piece.

Turkey Reds—140 pieces 2½-lbs. and 3-lbs. Mandarin at \$1.21 and \$1.39½ per piece respectively.

Velvets.—72 pieces Woman (spotted) at \$0.12.8/12.6 per yard.

D. P. Blue T-Cloths.—500 pieces Two Boy chop at \$2.11 per piece.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.*	Orange and Yellow.*	*Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt.	Sales Pcs.
E-wo, 10th instant.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Pcs
Camlets, Hor. & M. p. p.	8.41	.....	9.01	.....	9.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.67	8.85	
Sales, pcs...	10	.....	10	.....	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	10	50
Green Dragon.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.74	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	9.84	30
H.D.B. p. pce.	9.07	9.94	9.95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10	50
Sales, pcs...	20	10	10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
Long Ellis, H.D.B. p. pce.	4.79/75	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
Sales, pcs...	.....	5.51	.....	.....	.....	5.71/74	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
Lastings, Tree & D'gon	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	40	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	78
Eleph.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
S.S.p., H.D.B., p. yd.	0.48.8	.....	0.51.4	0.50.2	.....	0.50.4	0.50½	0.47.1	0.52	0.51.2	.....	.....	13
Sales, pcs...	24	.....	12	6	.....	0.49.4	6	6	6	6	.....	.....	
Md. Cloths, Dragon...	.....	0.65.8	.....	.....	.....	6 & 6*	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Phoenix	.....	0.70/69.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Yuen-fong, 11th inst.	9.07½/10	9.07½/10.02½	9.97½/10.00	9.60	9.97½/10.00	8.32½	.....	.....	9.32½	.....	9.20/22½	10.12½	500
Camlets, S.S.G. p. pce.	210	90	120	10	20	10	.....	.....	10	.....	20	10	
Sales, pcs...	9.22½/17½	10.17½/15	10.02½/05	.....	10.30 & 9.72½	.....	.....	.....	9.42½	.....	9.40	.....	300
G.G. p. p. c.	120	60	80	.....	10 10*	.....	.....	.....	10	.....	10	.....	200
Sales, pcs...	4.64	5.14	4.88	5.04	.....	.....	.....	5.14	.....	.....	.....	.....	100
Long Ellis, Unicorn, p. p	120	20	20	20	.....	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	126
Sales, pcs...	5.07/06	5.61	5.20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	36
G.G., p. p. c.	60	20	20	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs...	0.48½/49	0.48½	0.52½	0.50	.....	0.54	0.51	0.48½	.....	.....	.....	.....	
S.Stripes, T.T.B. p. yd.	66	12	30	6	.....	3	3	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs...	.....	0.33½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Union Cloth, 2-Eagle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Kin-ming, To-day.	9.12	9.98/10.00	10.04/07	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	250
Camlets, C.P.H. p. pce.	100	50	100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	80
Sales, pcs...	8.96/97	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	340
Ram chop p. p.	4.85/84	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
Long Ellis, C.P.H. p. p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	60
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	8.99/9.02	.....	.....	.....	40
Lastings, C.P.H. p. p.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7.17/18	.....	.....	.....	
Eleph.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6.21/26	.....	.....	.....	
Eagle	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs...	0.47½/47.6	.....	0.47.9	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.46½/48.4	.....	48
Sp.Stripes, C.P.H. p. yd.	24	.....	12	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Sales, pcs...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	

QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.*	QUOTATIONS—DUTY PAID.			DUTY.*
G. E. GREY SHIRTINGS—			Tls. m. c.	PRINTED TWILLS—24/25 yds			Tls. m. c.
6-lbs 39-in 38½-yds.....nom	pc.	0.92 to 1.00		50/52	pc.	1.30	1.70
7-lbs	"	1.00	1.30	Special ..	"	2.70	3.40
Dewhurst's Eagle	"	None			"	3.70	.....
8½ to 8½-lbs	"	1.05	1.68	TURKEY REDS—			
D. Eagle XX	"	1.65	1.67	24-yd 1½ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom	pc.	0.85	1.60
9 to 9½-lbs	nom	1.65	1.90	Best	"	1.60	1.80
9½ to 10-lbs	"	1.63	2.20				
Dewhurst's, Best	"	2.16	2.45	VELVETS—Black, 22-in.....nom			
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in..	"	2.00	2.60	VELVETENS—Black, 18-in ...	"	0.09	0.12½
12-lbs American 36 in	"	2.45	2.75	26-in	"	0.16	0.17½
G. E. WHITE SHIRTINGS—				BLUE DENIMS	nom	0.03	0.04
40-yds 36-in 56-rd.....	pc.	1.22½	1.35	DIMITIES—12-yd 37-in.....	pc.	0.90	1.20
60-reed	"	1.35	1.42½	41-in	"	1.00	1.34
64	"	1.46	1.80	MUSLINS—12-yd 42-in.....	"	0.52½	0.62½
64 .. Best and 66-reed ...	"	1.70	1.90	YARN—COTTON—Nos. 28/32.	"	67.00	75.00
72 to 80-reed	"	1.75	2.20	16/24, nom	"	59.00	65.00
Best	"	2.25	2.65	CAMELTS—English, SS.....	pc.	8.50	9.00
DRILLS, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs	pc.	2.50	2.70	GG	"	9.68	.....
English, 14 to 15-lbs, nom ..	"	1.34	1.85	SSG	"	9.53	.....
Good to Finest, nom	"	2.00	2.50	HDB	"	9.57½	.....
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs.....nom	"	1.70	2.00	CPH	"	9.67	.....
JEANS, Dh., 30-yd 30-in 8½-lbs	pc.	1.55	1.75	Dutch, 33 to 24-in	"	15.00	19.00
English, 8 to 8½-lbs	"	1.17½	1.72½	Do. 37-in	"	16.50	21.50
American, Heaver.....	"	2.30	2.35	MEDIUM & BROAD CLOTHS ...	yd.	0.65	1.10
SHEETINGS—				SPANISH STRIPES	"	0.85	0.55
Am., 40yd. 36 to 38-in. 14lbs.	pc.	2.45	2.92½	HDB	"	0.47	0.520
Eng., 14 to 16lbs.	"	1.70	2.45	TTB	"	0.48½	0.52½
T-CLOTHS—				HH	"	0.50	0.55
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., nom	pc.	0.80	0.90	BTI	"	0.47	0.52½
7-lbs	"	0.85	0.90	CPH	"	0.47½	0.48½
6-lbs Mexican	"	none		LONG ELIS—			
7-lbs	"	0.97	1.26	Scarlet, 24-yd GG.....	pc.	5.06	5.07
7-lbs Mexican Special chops	"	1.30	1.70	HH	"	5.05	5.25
8 to 8½-lbs	"	1.20	1.60	CPH	"	4.84	4.85
Better kinds and XX	"	1.72½	1.80	UU	"	4.80	.....
HANDKERCHIEFS—				HDB	"	4.77½	4.79
Blue, 28 to 32-in.	doz.	0.40	0.54	Sundries ..	"	4.40	4.70
Brown	nom	0.35	0.40	Assorted, HH	nom,	"	"
SPOTTED SHIRTINGS—White.	pc.	1.80	2.00	CPH	"	"	"
Dyed, nom	"	2.00	2.30	GG	"	"	"
BROCADES—White, 40-yd ...	"	1.85	2.00	UU	"	"	"
Dyed	"	2.25	2.40	V	"	"	"
DAMASKS—Dyed, 40-yd, nom	"	2.90	3.75	LASTINGS, 30-yd			
GENTIAN SHIRTINGS	"	1.90	2.20	GRAPE LASTINGS, 30-yd nom	pc.	5.25	9.30
CHINTZ—Assorted	pc.	1.10	1.40	GRAPE LUSTRES	"	2.50	6.00
Blue	"	0.90	1.15	PLAIN LUSTRES, Black.....	"	3.00	3.40
Brown	nom	1.10	1.20	ORLEANS—Figured, 30-yd ...	"	2.25	2.75
Scarlet	"	1.25	1.40	Special Colors & Patterns	"	2.50	3.30

* Haikwan Sycee Tls. 100=Shanghai Currency Tls. 111.40.

METALS.		QUOTATIONS.		SUNDRIES.		QUOTATIONS.	
		T.m.c.	T.m.c.			T.m.c.	T.m.c.
JAPAN COPPER—Tiles, best	per picul	18 50	@ 19 00	SUGAR—		5.10	@ 5.40
" Ore	"	17 50	" 18 00	White, Swatow, No. 1	per picul	4.30	" 4.80
QUICKSILVER—American	"	43 00	" 43 50	" " " 2	"	3.60	" 4.10
TIN PLATES—Parson's	per box	4 25	" 4 50	White, Canton, No. 1	"	5.00	" 5.40
STEEL	per tub	.....	" .....	" " " 3	"	4.30	" 4.80
Bamboo	per picul	3 10	" 3 20	Brown, Swatow, Best	"	3.30	" 3.50
TIN, Fong Hing	"	23 70	"	" " Common	"	2.90	" 3.10
Fok Chok	"	23 20	"	" Canton	"	3.20	" 3.40
Chowkung, &c.	"	23 00	"	" " Common	"	2.80	" 3.00
PIO IRON	per ton	16 00	" 21 50	PEPPER—Black	"	11 50	" 12 50
IRON WIRE, Nos. 11 & 21	nom. per picul	3 40	" 3 60	White	"	16 00	" 17 00
" " 14 & 25	"	3 60	" 3 80	RATTANS—Common	"	3 00	" 3 60
" " 18 & 25	"	3 80	" 4 00	Good to fine .....	"	.....	" .....
IRON—Nail Rod—				Best	"	4 00	" 5 00
Dawes' Best	per picul	2 15	" 2 20	SAFAN WOOD—			
H. Rogers, Sons & Co.	"	2 07½	" 2 12½	3 pieces to the picul	per picul	1 80	" 2 60
Sohier	"	1 97½	" 2 00	6 & 7, " & inf.	"	2 30	" 2 60
Belgian	"	1 95½	" 1 97½	ANDALWOOD, South Sea	"	3 00	" 3 30
English—Bar	"	1 70	" 2 00	Timor	"	5 30	" 8 30
Belgian	"	1 40	" 1 80	Malabar	"	13 00	" 19 00
LEAD—				WINDOW GLASS—			
I. B	"	3 60	" 3 65	Good assortment	per box	2 30	" 2 40
French	"	3 55	" 3 60	KROSEK—Devos's	per case	1 30	"
German	"	3 55	" 3 60	FLINT STONES	per picul	0 42	" 0 46
				COTTON—Shanghai, best	"	11 40	" 11 80
				Compoek	"	11 20	" 11 60
				RICE—Shanghai	p. 150 cat.	3 00	" 3 30
				Chiukiang	"	2 50	" 2 70
				HIDES—Cow	per picul	13 50	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per Str. "GLENCOE," cleared 2nd October, for LONDON.—Strawbraid 563.69 piculs. Tobacco leaf 568.41 piculs. Wool—Sheep's 396.39 piculs.

Per Str. "PATROCLUS," cleared 6th October, for London.—Pig's bristles 47.20 piculs. Feathers 102.11 piculs. Rhubarb 62.77 piculs. Strawbraid 300.63 piculs. Wool—Sheep 193.24 piculs. Rugs—Sheepskin 600.

Per Str. "GALLEY OF LORNE," cleared 10th October, for NEW YORK.—Skins—Leopard 7 and Tiger 8.

Per Str. "TOKIO MARU," cleared 10th October, for SAN FRANCISCO.—Rugs—Sheepskin 350. Skin clothing 32.

Per Str. "DECCAN," cleared 10th October, for LONDON.—Strawbraid 199.49 piculs. For MARSEILLES.—Strawbraid 16.23 piculs. For VENICE.—Silk Cocoons 1.30 piculs.

Per Chang of 141 inches.

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 15th October, 1883, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 234 to 239, both numbers inclusive.

GOODS.	RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.													
	Nugpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kinkiang.	Hankow.	Chesoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Nagasaki.	Higo.	Yokohama.
Grey Shirtings †	6,480	...	9,160	251	1,508	15,020	400	11,170	3,450	1,200	...	4,000	3,750	1,300
T. Cloths	1,330	...	1,695	50	260	4,540	2,460	3,360	1,350	1,000	...	300	...	700
White Shirtings	2,120	...	2,180	505	250	3,885	920	9,525	500	380	180	...	250	...
Drills, English and Dutch	960	90	1,650	30	557	3,165	720	3,180	1,350	60	...	120	600	...
" American	...	15	570	15	...	840	450	4,950	1,125	...	135	...	...	...
Jeans, English and Dutch	660	...	...	...	...	90	80	2,680	...	...	...	...	...	...
" American	...	...	...	60	...	...	40	100	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English	...	...	15	...	...	735	1,000	180	...	...	...	...	...	...
" American	280	...	20	...	20	225	1,105	4,760	200	...	...	...	...	...
Dyed Shirtings	303	...	487	...	430	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Brocades & Sp. Stings, White	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Dyed	160	...	180	...	50	420	...	80	...	100	...	...	...	50
Damasks, Dyed	...	...	40	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chintzes	130	...	670	...	111	394	160	1,030	80	116	...	...	...	200
Printed Twills	80	...	560	...	...	620	...	80	...	320	...	...	...	75
Turkey Red Shirtings	435	...	860	...	...	442	350	2,030	308	291	...	...	...	100
Velvets	24	...	60	24	30	294	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Velveteens	...	...	48	...	...	234	...	60	...	...	...	...	...	...
Handkerchiefs	...	...	600	200	200	400	...	...	1,480	...	...	...	600	200
Muslins	...	...	...	...	...	232	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	200
Dimities	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn	...	...	...	...	48	174	300	132	...	6	...	...	...	...
Spanish Stripes	132	12	252	12	84	216	12	30	6	84	...	...	...	42
Medium and Broad Cloths	48	...	206	30	12	578	42	10	10	44	60	...	...	54
Camlets	80	50	110	60	280	1,120	10	70	30	350	...	...	...	60
Long Ells	20	...	240	80	300	2,180	20	120	140	20	...	...	...	80
Lastings	60	...	20	...	80	1,910	110	230	520	140	...	...	...	40
" Crape	...	...	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lastings, Cotton & Italians	240	...	1,130	4	...	290	199	2,341	260	...	...	...	60	...
Lustres, Plain	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	170	...	...	...	...	...	50
" Figured	240	...	940	63	...	1,200	240	70	...	180	...	...	...	200
" Crape	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	100	...	...	...	...	...	...
Lead in Pigs	65	...	66	...	...	38	123	325	324	...	...	1,386	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	533	...	1,638	137	42	2,331	525	882	672	...	...	210	...	...

GOODS.	‡ TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, DATED 1ST JAN., 1883.	
	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jan. 1883.	Against last year same term.	For the Week.	For Year From 1st Jan. 1883.	Against last year same term.	‡ At date Estimated.	Against 15th Oct., 1883.
Grey Shirtings †	68,489	3,903,091	4,109,227	17,350	3,333,023	4,489,763	1,343,600	1,709,800
T. Cloths	19,095	1,494,679	1,453,794	18,540	1,874,819	1,418,087	924,300	670,000
White Shirtings	21,816	1,011,451	1,078,784	2,600	1,013,510	1,140,052	443,900	593,800
Drills, English and Dutch	12,647	285,070	293,907	...	83,179	346,782	164,000	406,200
" American	8,250	353,825	302,190	4,500	274,517	466,905	126,700	210,400
Jeans, English and Dutch	3,570	123,239	114,872	5,740	119,037	70,761	45,200	28,700
" American	220	17,309	21,280	...	30,760	25,805	14,600	9,100
Sheetings, English	1,930	169,933	180,531	1,890	126,205	233,756	74,200	136,300
" Am.	6,930	433,456	437,135	6,280	450,450	441,805	153,400	145,900
Dyed Shirtings	1,220	59,164	24,935	203	45,743	71,753	9,300	49,800
Bro. & Spot. Shts., White	200	3,271	2,984	...	4,261	1,866	1,600	900
" Dyed	1,040	37,216	34,879	560	28,826	46,069	12,500	27,400
Damasks, Dyed	40	5,058	6,054	...	6,953	5,452	9,100	4,800
Chintzes	3,035	133,235	77,284	1,966	151,288	127,500	57,000	92,100
Printed Twills	1,736	88,073	125,297	...	73,041	117,265	40,700	46,700
Turkey Red Shirtings	4,896	244,089	290,676	1,900	246,070	338,514	113,600	139,200
Velvets	492	22,638	29,723	...	13,258	31,867	10,000	24,800
Velveteens	342	8,812	10,366	...	6,673	13,706	3,600	6,600
Handkerchiefs	3,680	153,029	178,978	2,150	213,460	119,994	225,800	142,400
Muslins	532	137,633	159,911	...	94,231	86,213	22,800	22,200
Dimities	...	3,919	3,203	...	1,991	1,092	...	1,700
Cotton Yarn	660	21,564	17,364	390	25,914	13,992	12,000	5,100
Spanish Stripes	900	31,562	32,878	...	36,618	47,105	21,400	27,600
Medium and Broad Cloths	1,094	26,721	22,468	300	30,501	36,042	28,700	31,900
Camlets	2,220	81,245	76,035	1,000	58,835	84,760	18,800	50,700
Long Ells	3,200	64,864	64,923	400	53,172	72,740	29,500	45,200
Lastings	3,130	72,486	59,029	630	71,629	66,735	27,800	45,300
" Crape	100	2,090	2,900	340	2,209	2,138	2,400	3,500
Cotton Lastings & Italians	4,594	146,497	62,797	5,550	118,468	79,223	22,123	63,000
Lustres, Plain	270	6,353	5,185	2,748	2,748	2,799	...	1,100
" Figured	3,133	86,625	80,549	999	74,827	63,328	33,500	71,100
" Crape	250	1,040	2,520	...	120	2,849	380	1,000
Lead in Pigs	2,327	120,295	120,727	842	109,351	157,730	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	6,970	128,154	144,643	5,714	203,300	153,131	...	...

* Exclusive of Import Cargoes ex Nestor, Otto, Anadyr, Rohilla, Achilles, and Glenelg.

Import Cargoes declared—Sulley and Amazone, and additional per Mary L. Stone and Ancona.

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 17th October, 1883.

Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have changed hands for cash at 190% premium and exchange 73 locally, and from 191% to 191½% premium and exchange 72 to 72½ to Hongkong buyers. Shares were placed from Hongkong at 203½% to 202½% premium for 31st January. The market is firm with buyers at 191% and exchange 72.

Pootung Dock Co.—A sale at £110 is reported.

China Traders' Insurance Co.—Shares changed hands in Hongkong at \$73.

North-China Insurance Co.—Business has been done in this stock at £1,500 and £1,450.

Union Insurance Society of Canton.—The Directors' Report and Statement of Accounts to 30th June last have been published. The meeting of shareholders will be held on the 20th current.

1882.—The net premia collected for the year, after deducting returns and re-insurances, amount to \$1,099,213.82, which is over \$110,000 more than was collected in 1881. The losses and claims paid in 1882 amount to \$623,131.43, as against \$427,185.31 paid in 1881. After payment of a First Bonus of 20% on contributions for 1882=\$180,537.56, declared in May last, there remains a balance at credit of working account of.....\$218,255.02

which the Directors propose to divide as follows:—

A Second Bonus of 5% to contributors	\$ 45,134.39
A Dividend of \$18.29 per share	36,850.00
To Reserve Fund	76,255.50
Carried forward to meet liabilities and claims	60,285.13
	\$218,255.02
The Reserve Fund will then stand at	\$500,000.00

1883.—The position of the Society for the present year, so far as it can be ascertained, is as follows:—

Balance of working account to 30th June	\$576,391.99
Estimated premia earned since, less re-insurances, returns and charges	315,000.00
	\$891,391.99
Deduct losses and claims known to date	311,000.00
	\$580,391.99

Yangtze Insurance Association.—The market is quiet with a disposition to sell at £1,010.

Canton Insurance Office.—Shares have been placed at \$102½ to \$105. The market is strong with buyers.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.—The market is steady at \$350.

China Fire Insurance Co.—The market has been rather irregular, with sales at \$73.60 to \$75.

Selangor Tin Mining Co.—Shares have changed hands at \$124½ and \$124.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—One or two lots have been placed at £75.

Shanghai Waterworks Co.—Business has been done at £30 to £28, cum new issue, the purchaser refunding the calls paid on the new shares

Perak Sugar Cultivation Co.—Shares have been sold at £25, and are in demand at £25½.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATIONS.
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	
Bank.									
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co	40,000	\$125	\$125	3,193,336.43	\$52,509.62	30 June 83	• £2	28 Aug. 83	153% prem.
Ditto New Issue	20,000	\$125	£20	\$200,000.00	....	....	£0½	....	151% prem.
Shipping.									
Shanghai Steam Navigation Co. (in Liquidation)	22,500	.....	.....	.....	£22,266.80	31 Dec. 82	{ Return of £2 on capital. 19 Oct. 80 3% 24 July 83 + 3% 23 Feb. 83		Tls. 0.90 nominal.
Shanghai Tug Boat Association	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£8,660.77	31 Mar. 83			£95
China Shipowners' Association	1,380	£100	£100	.....	£14,373.68	31 Mar. 83			£75
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	60,000	£10	£10	.....	£3,570.07	31 Dec. 82			15% discnt.
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£1,000	£1,000	.....	£4,501.60	30 June 83	None.	None.	£800
Docks.									
Shanghai Dock Co.	410	£500	£500	£8,000.00	£446.70	30 June 83	• 2%	7 July 83	245
Pootung Dock Co.	950	£100	£100	.....	£633.21	30 June 83	• 5%	7 July 83	110
Gas.									
Shanghai Gas Co.	1,500	£100	£100	£29,000.00	£21,099.61	31 Dec. 81	• 6%	19 July 83	162
Compagnie du Gaz	500	£100	£100	£14,840.05	£11.86	31 Dec. 82	• 5½%	26 July 83	145 nominal.
Insurance (Marine.)									
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited	24,000	\$33.33	\$25	\$600,000.00	\$107,411.65	30 Apl. 83	22%	31 July 83	\$73
North-China Ins. Co.	1,000	£2,000	£600	£100,000.00	£562,701.97	30 June 83	£75	17 Apl. 83	£1,450
Union In. Society of Canton L.I.	2,000	\$1,250	\$125	\$500,000.00	\$580,391.99	30 June 83	£18.29	20 Oct. 83	\$650
Yangtze Insurance Association	1,200	£350	£350	£467,630.05	£80,555.51	31 Dec. 82	6%	13 July 83	£1,010
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	\$1,000	\$200	\$100,378.44	£3,907.18	31 Dec. 82	• 4%	2 July 83	\$215
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	.....	\$506,127.77	30 Jan. 82	+ 10%	1 Jan. 83	\$105
Insurance (Fire.)									
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$861,030.00	\$250,732.56	31 Dec. 82	+ £40%	28 Feb. 83	\$350
China Fire In. Co., Limited ..	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$500,000.00	\$142,251.94	31 Dec. 82	+ 18%	1 Mar. 83	\$75
Wharfs.									
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,150	£100	£100	.....	.....	31 Dec. 82	• 10½%	16 Aug. 83	£300
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company	2,200	£50	£50	.....	£1,156.57	31 Oct. 82	• 6%	April 83	£494
Pootung Wharf & Godown Co.	1,750	£100	£100	.....	£2,539.21	31 Dec. 82	3%	8 Aug. 83	£100
Mining.									
Commonwealth Consolidated Mining Co. of Arizona	500	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	\$75
Selangor Tin Mining Co.	2,500	\$100	\$100	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	\$124
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	3,000	\$50	\$50	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$160
Cargo Boats.									
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£1,874.76	.....	30 Dec. 82	• 2%	14 Aug. 83	£200 nominal.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	.....	£2,503.07	30 Jan. 83	None.	.....	£75
Miscellaneous.									
Shanghai Waterworks Co., L.L.	5,000	£20	£20	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	£28
Do. do. new issue	1,000	£5 pm. & £5 call	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Shanghai Ice Association	202	£160	£160	.....	£3,006.95	31 Dec. 82	None.	.....	£45
Shanghai Electric Co.	500	£100	£100	.....	£3,525.98	31 May 83	None.	.....	£36
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	£25

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Nominal Value of Bonds or Debentures.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1875	£ 42,800.00	£ 100.00	8%	30th June & 31st Dec.	£104 nom.
Do. 1878	£ 24,000.00	£ 100.00	"	30th June & 31st Dec.	£105 "
Lycium Theatre Ordinary Debentures..	£ 17,000.00	£ 25.00	"	30th June.	£ 20 "
Do. Preference do.	£ 5,362.50	£ 37.50	5%	31st Dec.	£ 20 "
Chinese Imperial Government Loan 1874	£ 627,615	£ 100	8%	30th June & 31st Dec.	£109½ "
Do. do. 1877	£ 1,604,276	£ 100	8%	28th Feb. & 31st Aug.	£105½ "
Do. do. 1878	£ 1,949,500	£ 500	8%	April and October.	£514 "
Do. do. 1881	£ 4,384,000	£ 500	8%	December and June.	£523 "

* For half-year.

† For year.

‡ A deficit.

§ Reserve for equalization of dividends.

J. P. BISSET & Co.

LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE



In consequence of Imitations of THE WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE which are calculated to deceive the Public, Lea and Perrins have to request that Purchasers see that the Label on every bottle bears their Signature thus—

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Ask for LEA and PERRINS' Sauce, and see Name on Wrapper, Label, Bottle and Stopper. Wholesale and for Export by the Proprietors, Worcester; Crasse and Blackwell, London, &c., &c.; and by Grocers and Oilmen throughout the World.

10ap-84 10

11th April, 1883.

"FOR the BLOOD is the LIFE."

CLARKE'S

WORLD FAMED

BLOOD MIXTURE

THE GREAT BLOOD PURIFIER AND RESTORER,

Has the Largest Sale of any Medicine in the World.

For cleansing and clearing the blood from all impurities, cannot be too highly recommended. For Scrofula, Sourvy, Skin Diseases, and Sores of all kinds it is a never-failing and permanent cure.

It Cures old Sores.

Cures Ulcerated Sores on the neck.

Cures Ulcerated Sore Legs.

Cures Blackheads, or Pimples on the Face.

Cures Sourvy Sores.

Cures Cancerous Ulcers.

Cures Blood and Skin Diseases.

Cures Glandular Swellings.

Clears the Blood from all impure Matter,

From whatever cause arising.

As this mixture is pleasant to the taste, and warranted free from anything injurious to the most delicate constitution of either sex, the Proprietors solicit sufferers to give it a trial to test its value.

THOUSANDS OF TESTIMONIALS FROM ALL PARTS.

Sold in Bottles BY ALL CHEMISTS and PATENT MEDICINE VENDORS throughout the world.

Sole proprietors, THE LINCOLN & MIDLAND COUNTIES' DRUG Co., LINCOLN, ENGLAND.

Trade Mark,—"Blood Mixture."

Agents for Shanghai—J. LLEWELLYN & Co. 7th July, 1882.

ONE BOX OF CLARKE'S B 41 PILLS

IS warranted to cure all discharges from the Urinary Organs, in either sex, acquired or constitutional, Gravel and Pains in the Back. Sold in Boxes, 4s. 6d. each, by all Chemists and Patent Medicine Vendors.

Sole Proprietors, THE LINCOLN & MIDLAND COUNTIES' DRUG Co., LINCOLN, ENGLAND.

Agents for Shanghai—J. LLEWELLYN & Co. 7th July, 1882.

JUST PUBLISHED

THE

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FOR

SEPTEMBER.

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SHANGHAI DISTRICT:

LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS, No. 18.

Ariadne Rock, and Drinkwater Point Buoys.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Ariadne Rock Whistling Buoy, and the Drinkwater Point, 10-foot, Buoy will shortly be removed for repairs, and that the present position of each will be temporarily marked by a 6-foot Conical Buoy.

Each of the temporary Buoys will be painted the same as the one it replaces and surmounted with a black spherical cage.

A. M. BISBEE, Harbour Master.

Approved:

GEO. B. GLOVER, Commissioner of Customs.

Custom House,

Shanghai, 29th Aug., 1883.

5se 430

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

No. 171.

CHINA SEA.

SHANGHAI and NINGPO DISTRICTS.

Bonham Island Lighthouse.

NOTICE is hereby given that the Light on Bonham Island was exhibited for the first time at sunset on the 12th instant. The illuminating apparatus is Revolving Dioptric of the Third Order showing alternate red and white flashes at intervals of half a minute.

Between the bearings S. 14° 41' W. and S. 47° 30' W. the Light is obscured by the high land of Bonham Island, and to the northward and eastward of Elliot, Raffles and Senhouse Islands it is also obscured from S. 12° 2' E. to S. 82° 16' W., with the exception of rays between S. 11° 24' E. and S. 10° 36' E.; between S. 2° 21' E. and S. 0° 44' E.; between S. 1° 31' W. and S. 3° 19' W. and between S. 50° 5' W. and S. 60° 11' W.

The bearings are magnetic and from seaward.

The Lighthouse is situated on the southern shoulder of the island and the light, which is elevated 237 feet above the sea, should be visible in clear weather at a distance of 22 nautical miles.

The tower is round, of iron, 25 feet high, with a total height from its base to the lantern vane of 47 feet.

The tower is painted in red and white horizontal bands; the dwellings are white.

Approximate position:—

Latitude..... 30° 37' 21" N.
Longitude... 122° 25' 44" E.

FOG GUN SIGNAL.

The keepers at this Lighthouse on hearing a bell, foghorn, steam whistle, or any other sound during foggy or thick weather, indicating the proximity of a vessel, will fire two guns with an interval of one minute between them, and if the vessel's fog signal is still heard will repeat the firing after an interval of eight minutes.

CAUTION.

Vessels should pass half a mile outside of the small islet, represented on British Admiralty Chart No. 1199 as lying a little more than 1½ cables to the westward of Bonham Island, in order to avoid its out-lying rocks, which are covered from one to two fathoms at low water.

By order of the Inspector General of Customs,

A. M. BISBEE, Coast Inspector.

Imperial Maritime Customs,
Coast Inspector's Office,
Shanghai, 13th July, 1883.

SHANGHAI SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

ARRIVALS
(SINCE REPORT PER LAST ISSUE.)

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & REG.	TON.	CAPTAIN.	FROM	SAILED.	CARGO.	CONSIGNEES.
Oct	9 Yangning	Chi str	324	Lincoln	Wenchow	Oct 7	General	C. M. S. N. Co
...	9 Yungching	Chi str	661	Andrew	Swatow & Amoy	...	5	C. M. S. N. Co
...	9 Kiang-foo	Chi str	1468	Morse	Hankow	...	6	C. M. S. N. Co
...	9 Fayew	Chi str	920	Crand	Hongkong	...	5	C. M. S. N. Co
...	9 Kiang-piau	Chi str	942	Perkins	Ningpo	...	8	C. M. S. N. Co
...	10 Tunsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	...	9	Butterfield and Swire
...	10 Amoy	Br str	814	Herrmann	Hongkong	...	4	Russell and Co

ARRIVALS—Continued.

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & Rig.	Ton.	CAPTAIN.	FROM	SAILED.	CARGO.	CONSIGNEES.
Oct 10	Hideyoshi Maru	Jap str	466	Black	Kuchinotzu	Oct 7	Coals	M. B. Kaishia
...	Oloneig	Br str	1255	Quartly	London, &c	Aug 14	General	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Achilles	Br str	1550	Anderson	London, &c.	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Poo-chi	Chi str	544	Lancaster	Tientsin	Oct 7	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Anadyr	Fr str	2358	Bennet	Hongkong, &c.	...	do	Messageries Maritimes
...	Kiang-piau	Chi str	942	Boswell	Ningpo	...	General	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Nagoya Maru	Jap str	1914	Walker	Japan	...	do	M. B. M. S. S. Co
...	El Dorado	Br str	900	Hurst	Tientsin	...	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Pekin	Br str	1274	McQueen	Hankow	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Store Nordiske	Dan str	595	Svenson	Cruise	...	do	G. N. Tel. Co.
...	Waverley	Br str	404	Stout	Tientsin	...	do	Morris and Co
...	Hae-shin	Chi str	763	Petersen	Foochow	...	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Ningpo	Br str	761	Cass	Nagasaki, &c	...	do	Siemens and Co
...	Kwa Hsing	Chi str	...	Andersen	Cruise	...	do	...
...	Tamsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Pautah	Chi str	869	Patterson	Tientsin	...	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Fuh Wo	Br str	600	Davis	Hankow	...	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Wha-on	Br str	262	Carozzi	Hankow	...	do	G. Harrison and Co
...	Newchwang	Br str	557	Peoples	Tientsin	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Benarty	Br str	1119	Boutillier	Hiogo	...	do	Gibb, Livingston & Co
...	Kiang-piau	Chi str	942	Boswell	Ningpo	...	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Fung-shun	Chi str	863	Tisdall	Tientsin	...	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Ingo	Ger str	671	Jesselsen	Nagasaki	...	Coals	M. B. M. S. S. Co
...	Kiangyü	Chi str	2275	Knights	Hankow	...	General	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Triumphante	Fr iron-cl	4176	Baux	Foochow	...	do	...
...	Tamsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Wuchang	Br str	793	Shaw	Tientsin	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Shanghai	Br str	1198	Martin	Hankow	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Sual	Br str	261	Koch	Hankow	...	do	G. McBain
...	Lyne	Br str	434	Hazard	Nagasaki	...	Coals	M. B. M. S. S. Co
...	Fooksang	Br str	991	Hogg	Hongkong	...	General	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Wenchow	Br str	560	Young	Tientsin	...	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Sin Nanzing	Br str	714	Waddilove	Tientsin	...	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Taiwo	Br str	719	Friend	Hankow	...	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Bohilla	Br str	2227	Burratt	Bombay, &c.	...	Mails, &c.	P. & O. S. N. Co
...	Yoritomo Maru	Jap str	612	Gall	Kuchinotzu	...	General	M. B. Kaishia

DEPARTURES

(FROM THE ANCHORAGE AND WOOSUNG.)

DATE.	SHIP'S NAME.	FLAG & Rig.	Ton.	CAPTAIN.	DESTINATION.	CARGO.	DISPATCHED BY.
Oct 8	Brunette	Br bq	374	Turnbull	Amoy	Original for N'chwang.	Morris and Co
...	Centaur	Ger bq	469	Offeren	Newchwang	Sundries	Gipperich & Burchardi
...	Lucky	Siam bq	425	Sequeira	Amoy	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Taku	Br str	608	Davies	Foochow	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Kiang-yung	Chi str	1037	Chang	Hankow & Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Hae-an	Chi str	710	Dirksen	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Chung King	Br str	793	Deyville	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Meefoo	Chi str	1284	Lunt	Chefoo & N'chwang	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Kiang-piau	Chi str	942	Boswell	Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Tokio Maru	Jap str	1146	Swain	N'aki, Hiogo, &c.	Mails, &c.	M. B. M. S. S. Co
...	Seewo	Br str	1058	Mitchell	Amoy & Swatow	Sundries	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Kowshing	Br str	1354	Webster	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Ichang	Br str	1249	Perks	Hankow and Ports	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Tamsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	John Potts	Br bq	374	Cargill	Newchwang	Ballast	Morris and Co
...	Hilda	Br bq	306	Scallon	Chefoo	Sundries	Nils Moller
...	W. C. de Vries	Br str	669	Smith	Hankow and Ports	do	G. McBain
...	Kung Wo	Br str	737	Flagg	Hankow and Ports	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Deccan	Br str	2022	Adamson	Hongkong, &c.	Mails, &c.	P. & O. S. N. Co
...	Kiang-piau	Chi str	942	Boswell	Ningpo	Sundries	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Galley of Lorne	Br str	1389	Pomroy	N. York, Amoy & H'kong	do	Russell and Co
...	Emma	Ge 3m-sc	219	Michelsen	Newchwang	Ballast	Eduard Schellhaas & Co
...	Waverley	Br str	404	Stout	Nagasaki	do	Morris and Co
...	Tamsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	Sundries	Butterfield and Swire
...	Poochi	Chi str	544	Lancaster	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Kiang-kwan	Chi str	1030	Perkins	Hankow and Ports	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Fuyew	Chi str	920	Crood	H'kong & Canton	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Changchow	Br str	1109	Whittle	Newchwang	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Amoy	Br str	814	Hermann	Newchwang	do	Siemens and Co
...	Yungning	Chi str	325	Lincoln	W'chow v. Ningpo	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Yung-ching	Chi str	761	Andrews	Jenchuen (Corea) & N'ch	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Strathleven	Br str	1588	Pearson	New York v. Amoy	do	Adamson, Bell & Co
...	Pekin	Br str	1274	McQueen	Hankow & Ports	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Hae-shin	Chi str	763	Petersen	Foochow	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	El Dorado	Br str	900	Hurst	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Michelle Selchau	Dan bq	447	Gerstenburg	Newchwang	Ballast	Gipperich and Burchardi
...	Kiang-piau	Chi str	942	Boswell	Ningpo	Sundries	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Daring	H.M. sloo	940	F. J. Elliott	Hongkong	do	...
...	Hideyoshi Maru	Jap str	466	Black	Kuchinotzu	Ballast	M. B. Kaishia
...	Alice Mary	Br bq	360	Davies	Newchwang	Sundries	Lewis & Hopkins
...	Fuh Wo	Br str	600	Davis	Hankow & Ports	do	Jardine, Matheson & Co
...	Pautah	Chi str	869	Patterson	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	C. M. S. N. Co
...	Newchwang	Br str	557	Peoples	Chefoo & Tientsin	do	Butterfield and Swire
...	Ingo	Ger str	676	Jesselsen	Nagasaki	Ballast	M. B. M. S. S. Co
...	Minna	Br bq	434	Cass	Nagasaki	do	Nils Moller
...	Tamsin	Br str	610	Goodfellow	Ningpo	Sundries	Butterfield and Swire